

e-bulletin

Issue 5
19 May 2006



Welcome to the fifth edition of our e-bulletin. Thanks to everyone who has emailed with news stories, and comments and suggestions.

If you have any information or ideas for the Bulletin please contact [Rhiannon Williams](#), Communications Assistant at Eastern Development Centre – contact details later. If you have any difficulty accessing this bulletin or its contents please contact us so that we can help.

The following links will help you to move between the sections providing information about national and regional news, development centre updates, forthcoming events and opportunities.

[Regional News](#); [National News](#); [Development Centre Update](#); [Other Events](#); [Useful Resources](#);



Regional News

Opportunities for a Postgraduate Certificate in Mental Health Commissioning

CSIP Eastern is pleased to announce details of a new one year Postgraduate Certificate in Mental Health Commissioning being offered at the University of Hertfordshire. The programme comes from a collaboration between CSIP and the University and has been designed with strong input from health and social care commissioners, Strategic Health Authority mental health leads and user involvement leads. Maurice Burns, Associate Director of Commissioning, says he is delighted that mental health commissioners will be able to evidence and accredit high level skills and competencies in Mental Health Commissioning through this programme, which will be the first of its kind nationally to focus specifically on mental health. Initial interest for a course of this kind came out of the Development Programme run by CSIP Eastern for mental health commissioners. The programme will commence in September/October 2006 and will be very timely in supporting the considerable challenges and expectations on commissioners within the new commissioning structures.

 [Click here for more details](#)



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National News

Plans to amend the Mental Health Act 1983

Briefing sheets on policy areas where changes are proposed are on the Department of Health website

 [Click here to access](#)

There is also information on the Mental Health Act 1983, the amending Bill and other useful links at

 www.dh.gov.uk/mentalhealth Email MentalHealthBill@dh.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 020 7972 4477.

Applying for NHS foundation trust status - Guide for NHS Mental Health Trusts

The Department of Health and Monitor have jointly produced a guide for NHS mental health trusts interested in becoming NHS foundation trusts. The guide covers how trusts can start the process of preparing for NHS foundation status and addresses both opportunities and potential areas of risk.

 [Click here for more details](#)

For hard copies email dh@prolog.uk.com

NPSA launches secure extranet site

The National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) has launched a secure extranet site providing comparative feedback and data. It is available to all NHS organisations in England and Wales. These reports will be available on a quarterly basis via a secure site only available within NHS-net.

 Email support@npsa.nhs.uk for more information

Call for Papers – Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Research & Practice Journal

The above journal is issuing a call for papers. The papers can be long or short articles, reviews, or 'points of view' articles relating to mental health or learning disability research, service or educational developments. We welcome articles from practitioners, managers, researchers, academics, service users and carers.

For more information contact: Alison Holmes a.holmes@hud.ac.uk or on 01484 473646

 [Click here for the website](#)

New national initiative offers better and faster access to talking therapies

People suffering from depression will gain better access to counselling and talking therapies under a major new programme launched in May 2006. The Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme seeks to deliver on the Government's 2005 manifesto commitment to provide improved access to psychological therapies.

 [Click here to read the article regarding IAPT](#)

Review of Independent Living Funds announced

Anne McGuire, Minister for Disabled People, has launched a review of the Independent Living Funds (ILFs). She said, 'The ILFs enable thousands of severely disabled people to live independently and we need to consider the future direction of the funds in the light of our goal of equality for disabled people.' The review is expected to report to Ministers by December 2006.

 [Click here to read the full press release and the Terms of Reference for the ILF review](#)



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Development Centre Update and Events

National Role for our CAMHS Programme Lead

We are delighted that Dawn Rees, CAMHS Regional Development Worker and CAMHS Programme Lead for EDC, has been seconded to act up as National Director of the National CAMHS Support Service for 6 months from April 1st 2006. Dawn's new title will be Acting National CAMHS Implementation Lead. Roz Rospopa roz.rospopa@camhs.org.uk will be acting up as CAMHS Programme Lead for the region and Yve White Smith continues as our Service Improvement Lead.

The CAMHS Programme will be recruiting to replace Roz's time with a full time Regional Development Worker in addition to the current vacancy for a Tier 4 Project Manager for the CAMHS programme.

We wish Dawn good luck in her secondment.

Eastern Region Integrated Drug Treatment System launch event – 7 June 2006, Newmarket

You are invited to attend the regional launch of the Integrated Drug Treatment System. (IDTS) This is part of the overall development of health services for offenders and establishes a development plan for the phased roll out of drug treatment services for offenders in prisons over the course of two years This event will give key stakeholders an opportunity to participate in an active programme of events and gain a greater understanding of the system and the development requirements for their own organisations.

 [Click here for more details, and a progress report on the system](#)

CAMHS and Substance Misuse event – 12 June 2006, Stansted

A free joint event between the National Treatment Agency and CAMHS programme bringing together key individuals to develop the regional and local partnership responses to young people and dual diagnosis issues in the East of England. Young people with dual diagnosis raise issues for clinical services to deliver co-ordinated treatment plans and in the financial responsibility and challenges when in-patient admission is needed. This work seminar is a response to the need to take a proactive approach in developing a multi-agency care pathway protocol for this high risk group of vulnerable young people.



[Click here for more details](#)

Commissioning for Social Inclusion event - 29 June 2006, Hemington Abbots

This workshop will be an opportunity for commissioners to consider in more detail the recent commissioning guidance for direct payments, day and vocational services published by the National Social Inclusion Programme, and to consider practical opportunities for developing services in line with this guidance. Even in the current climate of commissioning changes, financial recovery plans, and legally-binding contracts with FTs, these important guidance documents represent a real opportunity for commissioners to drive forward improvements for services users, families and communities.



[Click here for more information and the registration form](#)

National Whole Life Stock Take event, 4-5 May 2006 – Presentations available to view

The national Whole Life 'Stock take' event took place on the 4-5 May at the 'Rookery' in North Somerset. There are seven presentations that took place on the day that are available to view.



[Click here to access the presentations](#)



[Click here to learn more about the Whole Life Programme](#)



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Other Events

Opportunities in Employment for Older People – 25 May 2006, London

As an older workforce becomes a reality, employers and society will become ever more reliant on the resources of our older citizens. This conference will include expert analysis of how to enable older workers to access the employment market, giving them practical tools to make the most of their skills and reducing barriers to access to the workplace.



[For more information click here](#)

Community Engagement and Social Inclusion in Mental Health – 2 June 2006, Preston

Community engagement and social inclusion are both priorities for contemporary policy. Concerned with equitable access, social participation and local capacity-building, they represent ideas with powerful implications for practice across sectors. Organised by the Centre for Ethnicity and Health at the University of Central Lancashire with the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL), this symposium brings together people with responsibility for mental health services that are focused on social inclusion outcomes for service users through different approaches to community engagement.

 [Click here for more details](#)

Sex, Relationships and Well-Being in Mental Health Services – 6 July 2006, London

Having positive relationships and friendships are essential to our mental health and well-being. When we have them they are a crucial part of maintaining mental well-being and helping us when we experience emotional or mental distress. Practitioners often feel uncomfortable, or that it is inappropriate for them, to try and assist service users in addressing these issues, and there is often a lack of knowledge, information or support in tackling them. This conference will address these issues and look for a way of moving forward.

 [Click here to find out more about the event and for the registration form](#)



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Useful Resources

Effective Practiced-based Commissioning: Engaging with Local People

This guidance presents research into the views of the public, health professionals and primary care trusts about the issue of patient involvement. It outlines the benefits of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) for Practice Based Commissioning (PBC), puts PPI in context and offers guidance on what issues to consult on for effective PBC.

 [Click here for access to the guidance document](#)

New Research Funding Opportunities

Details of new research funding opportunities that have recently become available.

 [Click here for more details](#)

Other Bulletins of interest

Following on from our feature last issue, click on the link to see new bulletins that have been added

 [Other Bulletins](#)



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Other information about the Eastern Development Centre

We are currently running the following programmes of work (in alphabetical order):

- Children and Families (including Change for Children and the National CAMHS Support Service)
- Health and Social Care in Criminal Justice
- Learning and Improvement Networks
- Learning Disabilities (Valuing People Support Team, VPST)
- Mental Health (National Institute for Mental Health in England, NIMHE)
- Older People and Physical Disabilities (Change Agent Team, CAT that includes Integrated Community Equipment Services), and
- Social Care.

 [To download a copy of our 2005/06 Mental Health Prospectus, click here](#)

 For access to our website click on the link: <http://www.eastern.csip.org.uk/>

Care Services Improvement Partnership 

This bulletin was created by the Eastern Development Centre. If you have any queries about the bulletin, or would like to be taken off the mailing list contact:

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