

Sector Connector – 4th June, 2021, report to the VCS and Mental Health Collaborative

Mental Health Money, Two presentations, attached

- The Sussex Mental Health Collaborative, Transformation Plan, funding intentions, Colin Hicks, Director of Mental Health Collaborative Programme
- Mental Health money, engaging the Voluntary & Community Sector, Patients, Carers and people with lived experience – David Liley, Chief Officer, Healthwatch Brighton and Hove
- Link to a recording of the Sector Connector meeting <https://youtu.be/QZTKyAwkKBE>
- Also attached the 'Chat' from the Sector Connector Forum
- Sector Connector web pages <https://www.healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk/sector-connector>

Recommendations to the Collaborative from the Sector Connector Forum:

1. That the Sussex Mental Health Collaborative should routinely share information with the VCS and public about major funding decisions and investment intentions. Using some or all of the following:
 - a. A public facing annual event explaining financial challenges and investments?
 - b. A set of web pages giving background information and data, Healthwatch Brighton and Hove can host this, at no cost
 - c. An annual press release promoting the annual MH Money event
 - d. An annual advisory bulletin for all local elected representatives in Sussex, explaining funding challenges and investment intentions
2. That the Mental Health Collaborative [MHC] consider setting high and challenging standards for public and patient engagement, codesign and coproduction, including the following:
 - a. Sussex Mental Health Collaborative meeting to be held in public [not as public meetings]
 - b. The Sussex MHC to challenge itself – no system wide investment or disinvestment decision about funding can be actioned unless the information has been shared with the public
 - c. As above but adding an additional challenge that an attempt at Codesign and Co production has been ventured

The next Sector Connector Forum will held in September 2021 and will focus on:

“Foundations for our Future – Children and Young People’s emotional health and wellbeing”

Suggestions for further Sector Connector Forums include: Community Mental Health Transformation, Eating Disorder services, Making Co-design and Co production real, Post COVID Mental Health demand, Helping People with Complex Mental Health needs.

