



## **Greater Manchester Mental Health Programme Delivery Board Independent Mental Health Network (IMHN) User Representative(s) Role Description**

We are looking for “lived experience representatives” to join the Greater Manchester Mental Health Programme Delivery Board meetings and service redesign work across the ten boroughs, on behalf of the Independent Mental Health Network (IMHN). These meetings will cover a range of services which form the Greater Manchester (GM) Mental Health System and wider services across the Greater Manchester Boroughs, which include NHS services and community groups.

The key areas of work covered include:

- 24/7 community-based access and crisis care for children and young people (CYP)
- GM iTHRIVE network and CYP workforce development (NHS, Local Authority and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector)
- Mental and emotional wellbeing in education settings (schools)
- Improving mental wellbeing, building the capacity and resilience of communities and suicide prevention
- Perinatal and parent-infant mental health
- Liaison mental health – core 24 access across GM
- Enhanced adult crisis and urgent care options
- Integrated Improving Access to Psychological Therapies / Primary Care Rapid Assessment Interface and Discharge

### **Purpose of meetings**

The Mental Health Programme Delivery Board (MH PDB) is facilitated by the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP) and acts as a system Board providing strategic oversight of the MH agenda in GM. This includes overseeing the work of the Adult Mental Health Delivery Board and the Children & Young People’s Mental Health Delivery Board.

Board members have responsibility for addressing challenges and barriers in the system and working with key figures and senior leaders to ensure change can happen.

Attendees at the MH Programme Delivery Board are also expected to relay information discussed at the Board back to colleagues within their organisation’s and meeting groups they attend.

The GM Mental Health Programme Delivery Board usually meets quarterly (4 times a year).

## **Governance**

The MH PDB feeds updates on the MH programme and important information into wider GM system governance. This includes governance groups such as the Association of Governance Groups (AGG), Primary Care Advisory Group, Provider Federation Board (PFB), Joint Commissioning Board (JCB), Partnership Executive (PE) and Health and Care Board (HCB). Within GMHSCP, the Programme Board reports into the Programme Coordination Group.

## **The Role**

The aim of the role is to ensure that the lived experience voice is represented at a senior level, and to provide leadership in improving the experience of mental health services and wellbeing support for people in Greater Manchester.

The representatives on the GM Mental Health Programme Delivery Board meeting will:

- Offer the perspectives of people who have lived experience of mental health, including people who have tried to access or have used mental health services within the ten boroughs of Greater Manchester; as well as those who do not currently engage with services; and people whose needs are not adequately met within current service provision.
- Be proactive in engaging with the wide range of voices and perspectives in Greater Manchester, in order to offer a balanced view that represents the needs and desires of past, present and future service users in the region. Support will be provided to achieve this (for example by attending Greater Manchester IMHN meetings).
- Work collaboratively with other individuals with lived experience as well as members of the Mental Health Programme Delivery Board, to ensure the best system outcomes.
- Provide strategic advice and scrutiny from a wider patient perspective.
- Use any personal experience as a patient of the current services in a constructive and objective way to ensure views are as representative as possible.
- Be available to attend meetings which will take place during the day (dates and timings of Meetings will always be provided a minimum of one week in advance to all representatives).
- Prepare for meetings by reading the meeting agendas, minutes and other associated papers which, at times, may be complex and specialist in nature.

- Understand and agree that they may be asked to respect the confidentiality of items discussed at the meetings or information circulated for particular projects.
- Contribute to feedback on presentations given at the meetings, some of which will be made by people who are currently using or have used the services.
- Feedback to IMHN on matters discussed at the meetings and gather views from the network and other people with lived experience; support will be provided to deliver this.

**The sort of experience, knowledge and skills that we are looking for in this role include:**

- Whether you have used a service or not, representatives will undertake work to inform themselves to the best of their ability about the potentially diverse range of opinions of those using the service/s themselves.
- The ability to be objective and able to separate your own experiences as a user of the service from the need to provide a broader user perspective on the service.
- Membership of, or involvement with, a patient group which would enable your contribution to be informed by the views of other users and carers.
- Being able to demonstrate listening, negotiating and influencing skills, with a personal style that is challenging, but not confrontational.
- Working in a solution-focused way, and to act as a critical friend to the programme.
- Being able to work with others in a team and demonstrate a commitment to non-discriminatory principles and values.
- The ability to represent the perspective of people from disadvantaged backgrounds who use services, including those whose voices are seldom heard.
- An understanding of equality and diversity, and the ways diverse groups that use mental health services can be impacted by them.
- An ability to engage with complex system issues and strategic ideas in order to assess and communicate their likely impact on the daily experience of service users.

**Desirable attributes that we are keen to see (these are desirable and NOT essential):**

- Personal experience of someone using the services covered by the programme board (desirable).
- Experience of working on, and with, multi professional groups e.g. NHS Trust Boards; School Governors; Private Sector Business; charity, community, cultural or faith groups (desirable).

**IMHN will provide the following support to lived experience representatives in this role:**

- Opportunities for training and leadership development.
- Support from IMHN staff, including facilitating any access needs you may have.
- An allowance of £40.00 per attendance at the GM MHPDB meeting (usually 2 hours in duration).
- Reasonable Out-of-Pocket travel expenses, in accordance with our involvement policy. Please note that expense payments for taxi use will only be possible subject to prior authorisation by IMHN staff.

**Please note you will need to check if this impacts any means-tested benefits and seek independent advice on this if you are unsure.**

### **How to apply:**

We want to build an inclusive network that represents all the diverse communities in Greater Manchester. We particularly want to encourage applications from communities who are under-represented in positions of influence and power. Please get in touch if you would like to discuss this further or would like any assistance with your application.

As part of your application we would like you to write a short statement, of no more than 400 words, about why you want to be a lived-experience representative with IMHN and what experience and skills you can bring to the role. It might be helpful to address the following points:

- Why do you want to be involved with IMHN as a lived-experience representative?
- How have you worked together with other people to bring about change in mental health or another area?
- What organisations, communities or interest-groups are you involved with and how would this benefit your role?

If you would like to apply, please complete the [online form here](#) and submit it by **5pm on Thursday 30 July**.

You can also copy and paste this link to access the form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/IMHN-MH-Lived-Experience-Opportunities>

An Information Pack containing the terms of reference, for the meeting, example of previous agenda and papers is available upon request, for people interested in the role.

If you would like any further information, have any questions, or would prefer to complete a paper application, then please contact Elham Afzal and Rob Hemingway at [greatermanchester@imhn.org](mailto:greatermanchester@imhn.org)