



## All-Party Parliamentary Group for Prescribed Drug Dependence

### Meeting Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018

#### Officers:

Paul Flynn MP	APPG Chair	Oliver Letwin MP	Co-chair
Lord Patel of Bradford	Co-chair	Earl of Sandwich	Co-chair
Baroness Masham of Ilton	Co-chair		

Luke Montagu	Secretariat	James Davies, Secretariat
Harry Shapiro	Secretariat	
Anne Guy (AEG)	Secretariat (co-ordinator)	
Andrew Green (AG)	BMA	Gemma Hopkins, BMA
Rob Wilson	BMA Head of the Science & Public Health	
Laurence Russell	BMA Policy Advice & Support Officer	
John Read	Professor of Clinical Psychology, UEL	

#### Guest speakers

Tom Costley	REST (Mind in Camden), Operations Director
Jilly Moore	REST (Mind in Camden), Service User
Rosanna O'Connor	PHE Director, Alcohol, Drugs & Tobacco
Fizz Annand	PHE Programme Manager

#### Apologies

Normal Lamb	MP	Kirsty Blackman	MP
Richard Luce	Peer	Ilori Finlay	Peer
Pete Burkinshaw	PHE Alcohol & Drug Treatment, Recovery Lead		

Item	Description	Who	By When
1	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 were approved.		
2	<b>REST presentation</b> was heard from TC and JM, who confirmed that the service which costs less than £50Kpa to run, was being closed in 2019 with no clear plans for equivalent alternative services in place. Given the service is likely to save at least £200K+ in disability benefit (JD) this was seen as a short-term approach to cost cutting. It was also recognised what a loss of expertise would be incurred in such a closure and agreed that the APPG would take up the offer of a meeting made by the CCG in a letter to PF. APPG to contact and arrange.	JD/OL	28/2



	<p>All agreed the review should include a menu of options for the DH to take into design of services.</p> <p>RoC also confirmed she is talking to PHE's social marketing team about possible ways of educating patients about PDD. GP awareness mechanisms are also required and concrete suggestions will cover this.</p>	RoC/ FA	Q1 2019
4	<p><b>Any other business</b></p>		
4.1	<p><b>Scotland and Wales:</b> The excellent work being done through the submission of petitions in Scotland (Marion Brown) and Wales (Stevie Lewis) was recognised and discussed. The APPG and BMA will provide further support as appropriate in responding to questions raised at the petition hearings.</p> <p>RoC also confirmed she could liaise with Public Health Network colleagues who meet regularly to share learning from England to the regions and will add to the next meeting agenda.</p>	AEG/ AG	
4.2	<p>AG (BMA) advised that it will shortly be possible to report on individual GP prescribing numbers but wished to stress that the data will show, not quality, but difference (e.g. in his practice he may appear to have a high prescription rate for certain PDs because he specialises in working with patients trying to reduce their dependence for the practice as a whole).</p>	RoC	TBA
4.3	<p><b>Guidance for Psychological Therapists working with clients taking prescribed psychiatric drugs – update.</b></p> <p>The secretariat reported that appropriate volunteers have now been recruited to help create the guidance and sufficient funds secured from the main professional therapy organisations (BACP, UKCP and BPS) to proceed with creating the guidance. It is envisaged that first outputs will be under review by the end of the year with dissemination starting in spring 2019.</p>	AEG/ JD/ LM	