



New service user involvement group

“ABBA”

The old service user forums in the city are no longer running in the way they used to.

We have set up a new monthly meeting. It will cover all the issues that were in the old groups. Drugs and alcohol, dual diagnosis, mental health etc. but will take a wider look at the range of complex issues that we know affect people. Criminal justice, housing and homelessness, welfare and benefit reforms, exploitation, abuse and whatever else comes up. Everything that comes under the broad heading of complex needs. The meeting is run jointly with Opportunity Nottingham Beneficiary Ambassadors and Services for Empowerment and Advocacy (SEA)

With such a wide agenda, we will be trying a new approach. The meeting will be open to anyone who has an interest in this area. Current and ex-service users, in treatment or not in treatment, other organisations, staff, members of the public, family and carers. It might be a meeting about one issue or split into several meetings about different issues, run by different people. How it runs and what it does will very much be led by the people who turn up. There will be refreshments but unfortunately **no payment of travel expenses**.

We are also working with Expert Link nationally to have a bigger voice in national issues. They are also providing us with a lot of opportunities for development and free training. Come along and find out what we are doing.

Future meeting dates:

Friday 21st December

1-3pm in the Committee Room at Loxley House

Friday 1st February 2019

1-3pm in the Committee Room at Loxley House

Friday 1st March 2019

1-3pm in the Committee Room at Loxley House

Thursday 18th April 2019

1-3pm in room 0.06 at Loxley House

Loxley House is the big glass building next to the train station. The tram stops at the station.

The **free** Centrelink bus drops off at the front of the train station, a short walk from Loxley. You can catch this at Victoria Centre bus station, on Mount Street at the side of Angel Row Library and on Maid Marian Way, outside the Credit Union (not far from Sobar and the hub).

Glen Jarvis – Service User Involvement Officer. Nottingham CDP

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