



## **Newsletter**

**April 2019**

### **Call for Evidence**

A substantial amount of evidence has been submitted from a wide range of people and organisations including patients, families, carers, prisoners, NHS employees, third sector and other organisations. The Inquiry has received over 200 submissions of evidence and the team has held over 70 oral evidence sessions. This represents a considerable volume of documentation and includes significant community-based submissions, resulting from focus groups and other engagement activities held across Tayside - designed to capture the voices of people with lived experience of mental health services. The ALLIANCE, Dundee Fairness Commission and Dundee Voluntary Action have submitted evidence gathered from around 500 people.

Meetings have been held with over 60 organisations and groups across Tayside and further afield, including local councils and IJBs, the Prison Service, Police Scotland, health professionals and third sector organisations.

The Employee Participation Group (EPG) submitted its report to the Inquiry in April, based on the results of an online survey of staff working in mental health services across NHS Tayside. The survey response rate was 53%, with 524 members of staff taking part.

The Call for Evidence is now closed and the Inquiry team is extremely grateful to everyone who has submitted evidence directly, to those who have co-ordinated and submitted group responses and to all who have taken part in meetings and hosted events.

As the work of the Inquiry moves to the next stage further meetings and visits are planned, including to other Health Boards both in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

### **SPG meeting**

The ALLIANCE continues to work with the Stakeholder Participation Group. The Inquiry's new Professional Advisors attended the April SPG meeting to introduce themselves. They are:

- Paula Shiels, Senior Nurse Mental Health, Learning Disability and Public Protection, NHS 24
- Dr Ian Clarke, Consultant Psychiatrist NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde.

Both presented overviews of their extensive careers and answered questions about their involvement with the Inquiry from the group.

### **The Next Stage**

The Chair of the Inquiry is preparing an Interim Report, which will be published in May 2019. This will detail the Inquiry's work so far.

The Inquiry's research team is currently working on the analysis of the evidence – identifying key themes for further investigation or analysis.

So far, there are 6 such themes emerging:

- Patient access to services
- Patient safety
- Quality of service
- Leadership
- Management & governance
- Learning from incident reviews

The investigation into the themes will include a review of practices elsewhere and will result in conclusions and recommendations for improvements to mental health services in Tayside being made.

### **Contact Details**

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