

MANCHESTER CANCER USER INVOLVEMENT NEWSLETTER

MIKE'S STORY

Welcome to the sixth edition of the newsletter from the Macmillan User Involvement team at Manchester Cancer.



L-R: Lucie, Michelle and Tanya.

IN THIS ISSUE

Mike's Story

"We've got a chance to change things for the better."

How you're helping us make a difference

- Provider Board Interview Panel
- Steering Group Terms of Reference

Social Media Lends a Hand...

Meet the team...

Michelle Leach is a User Involvement Manager at Manchester Cancer.

Mike was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in February 2014 and went on to have radiotherapy in July that year, after which he became a member of the Late Side Effects of Pelvic Radiotherapy Support Group at The Christie. His desire to give something back to the system following treatment led to his involvement with the Macmillan Cancer Improvement Partnership and the Cancer Research UK's Policy & Information Sounding Board, amongst others.

When Mike heard about the User Involvement Programme at Manchester Cancer, he saw it as an opportunity to not just make a contribution but to be part of something innovative.

Mike sits on the Manchester Cancer User Involvement Steering Group, which meets monthly, and has just been appointed as a Service User Representative on the [Urology Pathway Board](#). "I passionately believe that people affected by cancer have an important contribution to make in deciding how cancer services are provided. We've got the chance to change things for the better".

"IN MORE AND MORE PLACES, OUR VOICES ARE BEING HEARD AND WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE."



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th March

User Involvement Matters Induction session 2

7th April

User Involvement Steering Group Meeting

7th April

User Involvement Induction session 1

21st April

User Involvement Matters Session 2

For more information about these events, please contact the Macmillan User Involvement Team on 0161 918 2368 or email mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net

HOW YOU'RE HELPING US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Manchester Cancer Provider Board, Interview Panel

On Monday 29 February 2016, a panel comprising Leila Hamrang, Mike Thorpe, Wendy Allen, and Tom Pharaoh interviewed three people affected by cancer who had expressed an interest in becoming the second Service User Representative on the [Manchester Cancer Provider Board](#). We are delighted to announce that Nabila Farooq was the successful candidate. She will be joining Service User Representative David Makin and the rest of the Board at the next meeting, which is due to take place on 18th March 2016. This unique selection process was co-designed by people affected by cancer, and is based on the principle that people affected by cancer should choose their representatives. The interviews for the Greater Manchester Cancer Commissioning Board will be held on 15th March 2016, at Bolton Hospice, following the same process.

Steering Group Terms of Reference

The User Involvement Steering Group at Manchester Cancer is made up of people affected by cancer from across Greater Manchester and East Cheshire. The Group aims to promote a collaborative approach between Manchester Cancer and people affected by cancer, to support new and existing user involvement initiatives, and to influence the co-design and delivery of the User Involvement Programme.

A focus group was recently set up to develop Terms of Reference (TOR), which describe the purpose, membership, and structure of the Steering Group. These were formally agreed at the last Steering Group meeting and will provide a documented basis for making future decisions. If you would like to see a copy of the TOR, please email a member of the team at: mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net

SOCIAL MEDIA LENDS A HAND...

The Manchester Cancer User Involvement Team (MUIT) are always looking for new and innovative ways to engage with people affected by cancer. A recent twitter campaign targeting breast cancer patients to support the work of the Breast Pathway Board provided an opportunity to team up with Genesis Breast Cancer Prevention. Within hours of our first tweet, pledges of help had been secured from some of the leading cancer campaigners in Greater Manchester such as After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, The Young Breast Cancer Network and Asian Breast Cancer. Michelle Leach said, "this is a great example of the positive impact social media can have. A tweet can take seconds but can provide very positive results quickly in allowing us to make contact with new audiences."

If you are a tweeter please follow us [@GM_Cancer](#) for up to date information and news!

LET'S MEET... MICHELLE LEACH

Michelle is one of the Macmillan User Involvement Managers at Manchester Cancer. Michelle's role is to support the development and implementation of the user involvement and patient experience work programme.

Michelle has worked in the NHS for over 15 years, most recently as a Project Manager for Haelo based at Salford Royal, planning and managing improvement projects within healthcare. These included collaboratives with Leeds Teaching Hospital to reduce inpatient falls and the Salford Integrated Care Programme for older people to name a few. In 2013 Michelle was an IHI (Institute for Health Care Improvement) Blue Shirt at the 25th Symposium in Orlando and her long term goals are to keep striving for healthcare improvement. Follow Michelle [@ShellLeach](#)



WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Have you been affected by cancer? By sharing your experiences and opinions, you can help improve cancer services. If you're a patient, family member, carer or friend, we would love to hear from you.

Please call us on 0161 918 2368, or email mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net.