

# MANCHESTER CANCER USER INVOLVEMENT NEWSLETTER

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



L-R: Lucie, Tanya and Michelle

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*"I feel I have been able to influence positive change."*

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Jane Ashworth has recently been seconded to support a pioneering lung cancer project.

## WENDY'S STORY...

**"EVEN GOOD EXPERIENCES CAN BE IMPROVED TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT EXPERIENCES FOR ALL..."**



Wendy has been involved with the user involvement work at Manchester Cancer from its infancy, feeding into the development of the Manchester Cancer [User Involvement Charter](#), which outlines Manchester Cancer's commitment to people affected by cancer involved in their work, and what is expected in return.

It was Wendy's experiences of caring for her parents through their cancer that led to her involvement in patient representative groups to support the design and improvement of cancer services locally. In supporting her parents, Wendy saw first-hand the care provided across cancer services from GPs and Consultants, Hospital Trusts, and later District Nurses and palliative care teams.

Whilst Wendy and her parents' experience of these services was very good, she believes there is always room for improvement and is particularly passionate about the support available for carers providing palliative care for loved ones at home – a passion that has led Wendy to be a patient representative on the Palliative Care Clinical Pathway Board at Manchester Cancer.

Wendy says on her experiences of the Palliative Care Board; "I have enjoyed meeting so many committed people who want to improve cancer services for others. I have found the Board extremely welcoming and although sometimes strategic change can be a slow process, I can see I have been able to influence positive change."

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15 <sup>th</sup> June	16 <sup>th</sup> June	21 <sup>st</sup> June	7 <sup>th</sup> July
User Involvement Matters Induction session 2	Cancer Vanguard Engagement Event	Tour of Salford Royal Hospital	User Involvement Steering Group Meeting

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

# HOW YOU'RE HELPING US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## Brain and Central Nervous System Small Community...

Our latest Small Community to be established has been to support the Brain and Central Nervous System (CNS) Pathway Board, Directed by Dr Catherine McBain.



This Board has taken a slightly different approach to User Involvement by first developing a small community of people affected by cancer and then inviting the group to choose their representative for the Board. Work has been underway to recruit a representative group of people affected by Brain and CNS cancers with the support of Clinical Nurse specialists. We will continue recruiting new members to ensure that the wider views of patients and carers are heard. Nominated patients and carers will be attending their first Board meeting in late June.

If you would like to be a member of the Brain and CNS Small Community or to learn more please email [Lucie.francis@nhs.net](mailto:Lucie.francis@nhs.net) or call 0161 918 2368

## PHASE TWO...

In the last edition of the Newsletter, we updated you on the achievements during Phase One of the User involvement Programme. In this edition we are setting out the key areas of work we will be focusing on during Phase Two of the programme which runs up until the end of March 2017.

### WE WILL AIM TO...

- Ensure that there are two Service User Representatives on all Pathway Boards.
- Develop a clear reporting structure to escalate issues raised by people affected by cancer regarding User Involvement matters across Manchester Cancer.
- Develop small communities for at least five Pathway Boards to ensure the wider views of People Affected by Cancer are heard.
- Ensure all Pathway Board Directors attend a User Involvement Awareness session.
- Continue to recruit people affected by cancer to user involvement opportunities.
- Develop ten case studies on user involvement and co-production to share best practice with others.

If you would like to learn more about Phase Two or have any Questions please email the team at [mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net](mailto:mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net) or call 0161 918 2368

## LET'S MEET...JANE ASHWORTH



Jane is the Team Administrator for Manchester Cancer, supporting the Pathway Managers and User Involvement Team. Jane has worked for Manchester Cancer for 2.5 years, having previously worked in the private healthcare sector for 8 years.

Jane has recently been seconded to work as Project Support on a pioneering ACE (Acceleration, Coordination and Evaluation) programme, aiming to improve access, speed of diagnosis, speed of starting treatment and improve patient care of people who are suspected of having lung cancer. Jane is enjoying the challenge of working on the new programme and we look forward to hearing more from Jane as the programme develops over the coming months.

## 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](mailto:mc.userinvolvement@nhs.net).

