

MANCHESTER CANCER USER INVOLVEMENT NEWSLETTER

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



L-R Evangelie, Tanya, Paula, Wendy, Michelle and Lucie

IAN'S STORY

Ian was diagnosed with cancer of the thyroid in October 2014, "I had always thought the treatment I'd received was brilliant and when I heard about the User Involvement opportunities at Manchester Cancer, I thought this was my chance to give something back."

Since then, Ian has become a member of the Head and Neck Small Community, using his experiences as a patient to help steer and support the work of the [Head and Neck Clinical Board](#).

Having been a Company Director at a number of organisations, including in the not-for-profit sector, Ian was keen to use his wider experience to support the programme; "I wanted to bring my professional skills to the table too, so when the opportunity came up to support with commissioners in the Vanguard work-

stream and help improve the procurement of cancer services, I was really pleased to get involved."



IN THIS ISSUE

Ian's Story

"I thought the treatment I'd received was brilliant...this was my opportunity to give something back."

How you're helping us make a difference

- Vanguard Focus groups
- Peer to peer event

Meet the team...

Evangelie Dunn has recently joined the team as a user Involvement Manager

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6th October

User Involvement
Induction Session

10th October

Peer to peer
Event for Pathway
Board members

12th October

Innovation Fund
Outcomes Event

27th October

Involvement
Matters Session

HOW YOU'RE HELPING US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Living With & Beyond Event Focus Group

A focus group took place on 14th September to support the Living with and Beyond Vanguard workstream. At the discussion group, people affected by cancer (PAbC) worked alongside the Director and Project team to co-produce an event for PAbC to be held in November. This event will share the future vision for cancer care follow-up for people affected by colorectal, breast and renal cancers and gather the views of patients and carers on these proposals. The focus group discussed the name and content of the event, as well as the role PAbC will take on the day. Following the event the project team will build on the ideas shared to develop and deliver a transformation of cancer follow up services in order to effectively meet patient need.

Clinical Standards Focus Group

Another of the Vanguard workstreams aims to produce a system of accreditation for standards in the delivery of cancer care services across all types of cancer throughout Greater Manchester and East Cheshire. Clinical standards are primarily aimed at offering patients a way to check the quality of services. They are often also used by clinicians and cancer services managers to monitor performance.

Involving people affected by cancer at the earliest stages of design and throughout the project offers a different perspective and ensures PAbC are at the heart of developments. The project will initially focus on Colorectal Cancer and the same methodology will be used for other tumour groups in the future. As a result of the focus group, it was also agreed that the provision for emotional and psychological support for PAbC should be a standard in its own right, rather than part of clinical standards.



Peer to Peer Event for Pathway Board Service User Representatives

People affected by cancer (PAbC) now have representation on the majority of the Manchester Cancer Pathway Boards. The user involvement team wanted to create an opportunity for service user representatives on pathway boards to come together to share their experiences and celebrate achievements made. The agenda for the day was co-produced with service user representatives to ensure that the event would be informative and include relevant learning opportunities identified by attending members. The event will bring together pathway board service user representatives, pathway managers, pathway board directors and the user involvement team; it promises to be a very collaborative occasion allowing all those involved to discuss their experiences to date. Look out for future updates on the outcomes of this event...

LET'S MEET... EVANGELIE DUNN

Evangelie Dunn is a Macmillan User Involvement Manager and joined the Manchester Cancer team in August 2016.

Evangelie worked in the NHS as a junior doctor in Stockport for three years, working with different patient groups both in the hospital and the community. Most recently, Evangelie worked for the Stroke Association, working with stroke survivors in the community to support their recovery. Evangelie has a degree in Public Health Policy and is looking forward to working with people affected by cancer to support them in influencing positive change in cancer services.



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.

