

The aim of this newsletter is to ensure all our staff are informed about the health visiting service now being provided by Tower Hamlets GP Care Group CIC.

Health Visiting Update

1st Edition

May 2016

Welcome to the Health Visiting Team

To welcome the health visiting team we held a tea party held on 8 April 2016. It was great that so many staff and supporters were able to attend including our commissioners in Public Health at the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Compass and GPCG members.



Phil, our Chair, welcoming the team

TUPE – Your terms and conditions

All staff that were transferred from Barts Health on 1 April under TUPE should have now received a letter setting out the TUPE arrangements. This included details about the changes to payroll and pay dates and the new standards of business conduct policy. We are aware that there have been some concerns that we plan to erode terms and conditions, for example annual leave entitlements, and this letter confirmed that there are no such plans to move away from Agenda for Change. If you have not received a copy please contact your line manager.



Initial Management Arrangements

We are already in the process of recruiting a Director of Health Visiting to provide managerial and professional leadership.

This post will be supported by four clinical leads, with one for each locality. The recruitment to these roles will be led by the new Director of Health once appointed.

Initially whilst recruitment for the new Director is taking place the two existing clinical leads, Helen and Yvonne, and training lead, Anne, will be line managed directly by Tracy Cannell, Chief Operating Officer for GPCG.

Professional leadership will be provided by Pamela Agapiou, a former Director of Children’s Services and qualified health visitor.

Tower Hamlets Community Health Services Contract

GPCG have been awarded the contract for all community health services in Tower Hamlets, the majority of the services will be delivered by ELFT and Barts through sub-contracts. Over the next two months the proposals will be formally reviewed and if agreed the contract will commence this October.



‘Smart’ Mobile Phones for lone workers

We have ordered smart phones for all staff that are lone workers. This is to ensure that you have a means of calling for assistance when out and about. It also supports you to work more flexibly by providing remote access to NHS mail and an electronic calendar. The phones have now arrived and will be issued as soon as possible.

Caseload Review

We are reviewing current caseloads for each team including numbers of under 5’s and families requiring additional support to make sure that the each team’s staffing configuration reflects these and there is a fair distribution of staff. The results of this will be shared with all teams.



Staff Workshop – Developing Our Health Visiting Service

There will be a half day workshop on 1 June starting at 9.30am in The Centre, Community Hall, Grd Floor of Maha building, 32 Merchant Street, E3 4LX for all staff within the health visiting service.

The purpose is to discuss the future development of the service to meet the needs of our children and families.

Please make sure that you can attend.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED