# FYLDE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP (FFSG) – RETHINK MI

# NEWSLETTER

# 2019

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING 16th October 2019

Members of FFSG attended Blackpool Council Scrutiny meeting to listen to and address questions and statements to Lancashire Care Foundation Trust (LCFT).

**LCFT INSPECTION**

LCFT was re-inspected by the CQC in August of this year. The report was published 19th September 2019 stating LCFT is still “Inadequate” or "Requires Improvement" in the areas listed in the table below.

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| **AREA** | **RESULT** |
| Acute Wards for adults of working age and psychiatric intensive care units | Inadequate |
| Mental Health Crisis Services and health-based places of safety | Inadequate |
| Community Health Services for Adults | Requires Improvement |
| Community Based Mental Health Services for Adults of Working Age | Requires Improvement |

**ISSUES RAISED BY FFSG**

During the meeting FFSG raised the following issues:

* Drug and Alcohol use within the Harbour
* Vulnerable individuals in the Harbour at risk. One example given was of bank accounts being emptied by less vulnerable patients
* Individuals long staying in the Harbour, i.e. 30 months with no suitable intervention therapies
* Crisis Telephone not always answered

Carolyn Donavan the new CEO of Lancashire Care acknowledged these issues and said she would investigate them.

Carolyn Donovan spoke of a new Mental Health Rehab Hospital in the Spring of 2020 which is good news but it still does not address the issues of long term patients while waiting for the new Rehab to open.

LCFT are to be invited back to Scrutiny in the New Year to inform of how these failings are being addressed. FFS will continue to raise these issues with local Lancashire Care Managers.

A full copy of the report can be read on the CQC website Lancashire Care September 2019 report

**Blackpool & Fylde Coast Crisis Cafe**

FFSG continue to be involved in the operational and development meetings regarding a Mental Health Crisis Cafe/Safe Haven. Members of the group have been fact finding and gathering information during visits to Preston Safe Haven and Liverpool Light Safe Haven. We will update you with the information gathered at our next FFSG meeting.

**Lancashire Recovery College in Blackpool**

FFSG were invited to the Advisory Meeting of Lancashire Recovery College  [www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/recovery-college-course-booking](http://www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/recovery-college-course-booking)

The Recovery College in Blackpool is a pilot running until the end of December 2019 when the Advisory Meeting will look at it’s success and decide on its future in Blackpool. The outcomes from the meeting will be shared with the group.

**Future Meetings requiring attendance by Fylde Family Support Group**

20th November - Procurement Crisis Cafe Meeting

25th November - LCFT Involvement Meeting Preston

27th November - Advisory Meeting Recovery College

03rd December - Blackpool Mental Health Partnership

10th December- Operational Crisis Cafe Meeting

**23rd November 1:30pm - 4:30pm at Empowerment Building**

**Fund Raising for FFSG Dog Walking Therapy Group**

Jo Fletcher, Vicki Hemming (Stuart Clayton’s sister) and Linda Dixon are holding a Charity Fund Raising Event for the FFSG Dog Walking Therapy Group. With FREE Pamper Treatments, such as facials, hand massages and makeup using the wonderful, eco-friendly TROPIC beauty products. FREE refreshments will be available. We have a great raffle with kindly donated prizes:

* Tropic goodies donated by Vicki,
* Fragrant Melts by Laura
* Dog themed goodies…and many more.

Raffle is £1 a ticket or 3 tickets for £2 and will be drawn on the day. Please support this great cause and pop in where you will find us welcoming and relaxing. Dogs will welcome you with wagging tails and free canine therapy will be available.
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There will be much to take forward into the New Year and Fylde Family Support will continue to campaign and work towards improving Mental Health across all services.

We would like suggestions for Guest Speakers for the New Year as we want to share and gather information across all the services.

Please email to fyldefamilysupportgroup@rethink.org