

REPORT TO:	ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES REVIEW PANEL 30 January 2019
SUBJECT:	Adult Safeguarding in Croydon – Breakthrough counselling Group Project
BOARD SPONSOR:	Guy Van Dichele - Executive Director Health, Wellbeing and Adults Annette McPartland, Director of Operations, Social Care, Health, Wellbeing and Adults
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: This report is for information only	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Adult Social Services Review Panel (ASSRP) is asked to note the contents of the report and support the future development of the Breakthrough counselling Group Project

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Adult Social Services Review Panel on the Breakthrough counselling Group Project. This is an innovative project developed with partners in Croydon to address the complex issues which underpin Hoarding behaviours

3. DETAIL

Breakthrough counselling Group Project

- 3.1. In 2017 Croydon Council ASC, Public Safety, Public Health and Housing commissioned a project to help clients receive psycho-social support alongside decluttering activities. The project achieved success with the 6 participants and several reported life changing levels of decluttering. All 6 clients completed the 6 sessions. The partner commissioned to do the group counselling and the de-clutter work was MIND.
- 3.2 As a result of the success of the work in 2017 a further round was commissioned in 2018 with 9 clients. Minor changes were made to the project as a result of lessons learnt from the 2017 cohort. The outcome of the resulting counselling (group) and de-clutter sessions are outlined in the table below:

Client	Group completion	Referrals/ joint work	Outcome comments	Bags De-cluttered
1	Completed	Gateway, South London and Maudsley Mental Health Trust (SLAM,) London Fire Brigade (LFB)	Cleared electronics, papers and has a safer staircase	36
2	Missed a few sessions	SLAM, Started individual counselling with Mind		33
3	Didn't complete	GP		0
4	Completed half of the sessions	LFB		13
5	Completed	LFB	Significant clearing	39
6	Completed	LFB	Friends could now come over	46
7	Completed	Housing, SLAM & entered individual counselling	Significant clearing	20
8	Not 100% attendance	Age UK, SLAM & Entered individual counselling		28
9	Didn't complete			0

Bag Totals:

111 x Rubbish
73 x Charity Shop
21 x Recycling

3.3. The headlines from the above are that those who stayed in the program achieved significant decluttering success. Several went on to individual counselling sessions to hopefully continue their journey of psychological wellbeing. The individuals who took part all have complex needs and at times the intervention (de-cluttering) was very difficult for them. At times psychological difficulties came to the fore and risks can be high when dealing with low mood, anxiety and self-harm and as such joint work with SLAM and GPs is vital. The amounts that MIND De-clutter buddies have been able to help clients remove are significant and have undoubtedly led to a better quality of life on a day to day basis for those involved in the group.

Next Steps

3.4 It is planned that a further group will take place for 2019, learning from the experiences of the 2017 & 2018 cohorts. Furthermore there will be a follow up

research with the participants of the previous participants which will be presented in a paper.

4. EQUALITIES IMPACT

Analysis of the data presented in the report shows slight increase in reported abuse in regard to women. A further challenge is the under representation area of The Black, Minority Ethnic (BME) groups in adult safeguarding activity. The safeguarding board monitors all reported abuse and actions being taken to ensure equity of care and support across all residents.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

No direct financial impact.

Approved by: Mirella Peters, Head of Finance, Health, Well-being & Adults on behalf of Lisa Taylor Director of Finance, Investment & Risk

Nick Sherlock
Head of Adult Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
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