

OPSP Network meeting 24th October 2018 at One Westminster

Attendance – please see contact list below

Notes from last meeting: the meeting looked at Integrated Services, looking at what works and what doesn't. Discussion also about directories and local information services – notes from the meeting include a list of these, and are available [here](#)

Isolation and loneliness amongst older people in Westminster.

Dr Alex Bailey, Consultant old age psychiatrist, Westminster Older Adults Community Mental Health Team gave the first presentation – outline available [here](#).

Carmel Bonse and Ruth Draper – both Care Navigators from CLH – spoke about their role signposting and referring mainly older people with moderate or severe frailty to appropriate support services. These include social prescribing services – such as befriending in particular.

Discussion on improving use and coordination of and with MH and care coordinator services - points raised:

- Difficult to keep track of all the different services. Difficult to be sure that especially NHS providers aware of all community services – although care coordinators and new 'village' or 'hub' systems can help.
- Difficult to make/accept appropriate referrals when information limited by need for confidentiality. Caz talked about Abbey's system of gaining consent.
- Full awareness and use of power of attorney important (suggested next Network meeting focus on this area).
- Consensus that there are gaps in MH provision for older people.
- Better coordination of befriending 'offer(s)' in Westminster could be useful. Befriending subgroup will report back to OPSP Network.

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