



Stakeholder bulletin

A new community update

Welcome to this brand new community update where we'll be sharing highlights from recent months' activities across South West London and St George's Mental Health Trust. This newsletter is your chance to stay up to date on the latest from around the Trust and our mission, [Making Life Better Together](#).

As we enter the final quarter of 2020, it is clear the world has changed in ways none of us could have predicted this time last year. I have been constantly impressed by how our communities have adapted to the challenges Covid-19 has presented, and I know our spirit of collaboration and resilience will equip us for the months ahead.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, our staff at South West London and St George's have come together to provide excellent care for our patients. From establishing new services, to working in more

agile ways, they have achieved some amazing things and ensured availability of our services every step of the way.

Never has supporting health and wellbeing been more important. And we know the care we provide is just one part of a bigger jigsaw that we all contribute to in so many different ways. As we face the months ahead, we look forward to continuing to work with all our community partners to tackle the challenges together.

Please do take good care and stay safe.



Vanessa Ford

Chief Executive

Responding to COVID-19

Throughout 2020, delivering care safely and to the highest standard has remained a top priority for the Trust.

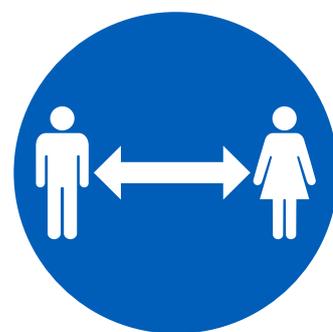
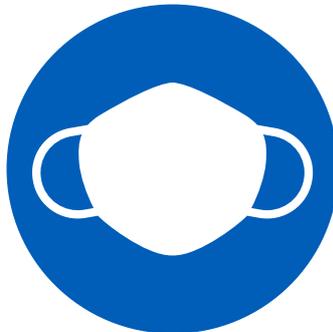
We have taken important steps to reduce non-essential face-to-face contact, making temporary changes to services and working in more agile ways. Digital technology such as our new online platform Attend Anywhere is enabling us to provide assessments virtually and over the phone and we have extended our 24/7 mental health support line.

Where patients do need face-to-face support, our staff have done a tremendous job to make sure this continues. In March we established the Orchid Mental Health Emergency Service, designed as an alternative to A&E, which has helped over 1,000 people in crisis over the past six months. We were delighted to see Orchid cited recently as “innovative and inspirational”

in a Care Quality Commission report on best-practice changes across the country.

Our Recovery College courses are being provided virtually supporting our students and staff at this challenging time and a 24/7 advice line ensures staff can access professional advice and guidance at all hours. We have also extended free parking for staff until the end of November.

We are continually monitoring the latest government guidance and providing timely and regular communications across the Trust to ensure our facilities remain Covid-secure including championing the Hands - Face - Space campaign across our sites. At the same time, we continue to monitor stock levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) closely and provide PPE drop-in sessions for staff offering advice and guidance.



South West London and St. George's is here for you

If you need mental health support in a crisis you can call our 24/7 Mental Health Support Line on 0800 028 8000. The Mental Health Support Line offers emotional support and advice to people who are affected by urgent mental health issues, at any time of the day or night. It is open to adults of all ages, including people who haven't previously accessed mental health services.

Children and young people can call the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Crisis Line on 0203 228 5980.

If you are a patient at our Trust and you need support, call the mental health team that looks after you. You can find contact details on [our website](#).

Community mental health summit

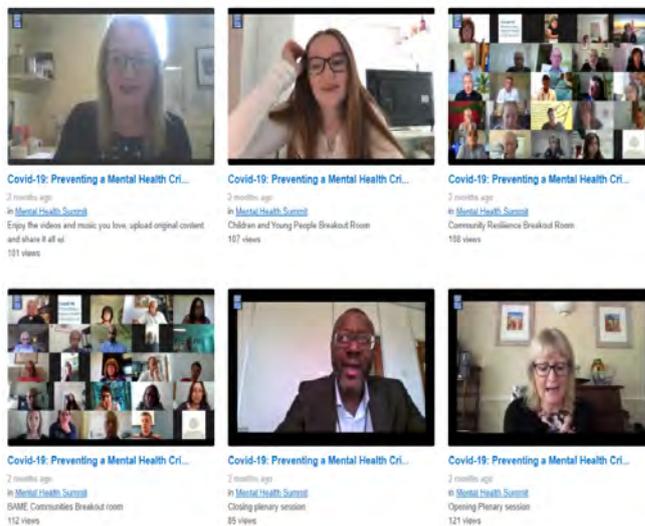
In July hundreds of people from across the community joined us for an online summit exploring how we can all work together to protect and promote mental health in the wake of Covid-19.

We are determined to work together with our stakeholders to take positive action so together with the South London Mental Health and Community Partnership and a number of vital community groups, we have embarked on a 12-month targeted programme of prevention which aims to tackle the impact of Covid-19 on the mental wellbeing of our communities.

The 'South London Covid-19 Preventing Mental-ill Health Taskforce' has now been established and is dedicated to the creation of a shared action plan for prevention. The Taskforce is exploring ways in which we can work with and empower local community groups to harness strengths and co-produce solutions to emotional and practical challenges.

This work is about looking upstream to help people who have never been in contact with mental health services and address mental health impacts of Covid-19.

Our next digital summit takes place on Tuesday 10 November and will help inform the ambitions and outcomes for the programme. This is a chance to share your input to help shape the plans to support people who may be at risk of becoming mentally unwell due to the impact of Covid-19. Find out more and register to attend via [our website](#).



Springfield Village begins to take shape

We have been delighted to see construction of our community's state-of-art mental health facilities progressing at pace, as we bring a new '[Springfield Village](#)' to life.

Together with our construction partners, we are working to deliver world class mental health facilities, helping to transform the services we provide to secure the future for our patients, those that care for them and our staff.

Alongside this, the development will provide a 32 acre public park in Tooting – providing excellent outdoor space for our community; extensive

community healthcare – treating people closer to their families and their home; brand new homes at our Springfield University Hospital site – providing hundreds of homes for families, and a new school – investing in our children's future.

Following a temporary pause to the works at the end of March when the pandemic began, construction work on the Springfield Hospital site recommenced on 1 April 2020 in line with the latest guidance. Our construction partners STEP (Springfield and Tolworth Estate Partnership) carried out thorough health and safety checks and made all adjustments necessary to reopen the site.

This led to a delay of just eight days meaning the new facilities at Springfield are on track to be finished by the Summer of 2022, with the first areas of the new park following in Spring 2023. In the event further lockdowns we will work to ensure construction can continue safely and are

monitoring the latest guidance from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Keep up to date with the latest news as the build progresses via [our website](#).



Addressing race inequalities

In August we joined organisations across the NHS in signing up to the UK's first national pledge for senior NHS leaders to reduce ethnic inequalities. Against the backdrop of George Floyd's killing, the Black Lives Matter anti-racist protests worldwide, and the systemic inequalities highlighted by Covid-19, CEOs, medical and nursing directors of NHS Mental Health Trusts, commissioners and public bodies have committed to a set of seven actions.



The pledge comes as the Trust's [Ethnicity and Mental Health Project \(EMHIP\)](#) approaches its one year anniversary. Together with Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network and South West London CCG, this project aims to deliver

a programme of improvement to reduce ethnic inequalities in service access, experience and outcomes in local mental health services.

We have also been pleased to support Black History Month over October with banners across our sites helping to raise awareness. The NHS is the biggest employer of people from a BAME background in Europe and as in previous years, the Trust has been celebrating the importance and impact of Black Londoners to the NHS through a series of staff events and activities including a Reverse Mentoring Programme targeted at BAME staff, and a series of 'Let's Talk' webinars providing a space for staff to talk openly about the impact of racism, the pandemic, bullying, harassment.

We have also promoted a number of NHS England Black History Month webinars to our staff and are participating in NHS initiatives at local level such as the [interactive London map](#). As part of this each hospital will have the 'face' of a black Londoner who is an inspirational figure to the hospital or local area.

Back in action with Stacey Dooley

This Autumn we are excited to be welcoming the BBC3 team and documentary maker Stacey Dooley back to make a second documentary about the exceptional mental healthcare the Trust provides to its patients.

The first programme, *Stacey Dooley: On The Psych Ward* which aired in March 2020, reached 3.1 million viewers, helping to break mental health stigma and share insights into the Trust's work.

The crew, who are experienced in the area of mental health, have been meeting with staff and patients in a variety of our services. Filming is now getting underway with robust consent protocols in place and this time we are hoping to feature some of the work we do in the community as well as with our inpatients.



Mental Health Month

With Mental Health Month coming to an end the Trust has been leading on celebrations around World Mental Health Day with a host of activities throughout the month of October.

The theme for this year is "Mental Health for All. Greater Investment – Greater Access", and through our programme of events our aim is to challenge stigma and discrimination and raise awareness of mental health issues. This included a special presentation by Tricia Nearn, Designated Mental Health Lead at Southfields Academy, on Child Psychology called 'Don't Flip Your Lid!' and a series of [online webinars](#) from Talk Wandsworth.

Find out more about the full programme and book tickets for online events [here](#).

A promotional graphic for October Mental Health Month. At the top right is the NHS logo and the text "South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust". The main text reads "October Mental Health Month" in large, bold letters. Below this is the slogan "Mental health for all: Greater investment - Greater access". A deadline is stated: "Deadline: 18 October 2020. Please visit inSite to see the full list of events." There is a logo for "#UPLIFTING IMAGE 2020 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION". A central image shows a globe with a green awareness ribbon wrapped around it. At the bottom, there are five icons with labels: "Respectful", "Caring", "Collaborative", "Compassionate", and "Consistent".

#Upliftingimage winners announced

Earlier this month we [announced the winners](#) of our annual digital photography competition, #UpliftingImage.

The competition, which was open to local schools, residents, service users and staff, formed part of the Trust's mental health month celebrations and is designed to encourage people to talk about mental health.

This year, the theme for the competition was 'what makes you happy?' and we were delighted to receive a fantastic range of inspiring images from family photos to the local architecture.

SWLSTG Chair Ann Beasley announced the final two winners and closed this year's ceremony: saying: "The Uplifting Image digital photography competition is an opportunity for people from

across our communities to share the pictures that can inspire and uplift all of our spirits. Now more than ever, it is important to find the time and space to reflect on the things that make us happy. It's wonderful to be part of the 6th #UpliftingImage competition and I'd like to thank everyone for their submissions, which were a delight to receive."



Annual public meeting

And finally, September saw the Trust hold its Annual Public Meeting virtually for the first time.

Alongside highlights from our annual report and accounts, we heard an illuminating presentation on ethics and values from Professor Deborah Bowman, Trust Non-Executive Director, as well as updates on the Ethnicity and Mental Health Improvement Project (EMHIP) from Professor Sashi Sashidharan and Malik Gul of Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network.

Thank you to all our contributors and to everyone who joined the event.

If you weren't able to take part on the night, you can watch the recording of the session on our [YouTube channel](#).

Annual Public Meeting

17 September
2020



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You can also access the Trust's GP news [here](#).

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