

# **Scottish Public Mental Health Group**

## **Role and Remit**

### **Purpose of the Group**

Its purpose is to make public mental health a priority across Scotland - for real, and to document improvements or otherwise in public mental health.

The aims of the Public Mental Health Group (PMHG) are:

- To make best use of the opportunity provided by the current focus on mental health and particularly Scottish Government's forthcoming 10 year MH strategy;
- To take actions to ensure public and mental health are better integrated and achieve parity with physical health;
- To ensure mental health is included in all policies/strategies which impact on public health;
- To share experience, knowledge and approaches for taking forward Public Mental Health including early stage ideas;
- To raise the profile of Public Mental Health as a practice – specialist and generalist
- To provide an informal network of those involved in public health with an interest in public mental health and act as a stakeholder group for NHS Health Scotland work programme;
- To facilitate cross-Board and cross-partner collaborative work as appropriate; and
- To provide a conduit to general advice on approaches to public mental health practice and access to public health expertise across Scotland, as appropriate.

### **How will aims be fulfilled through the PMHG:**

- proposing clear actions in support of the new strategy for all partners, which can be operationalised at various levels;
- embedding public mental health into all policy/strategies by providing a public mental health 'lens';
- considering how to use a limited resource to best effect;
- working to improve indicators and data related to public mental health;
- working to create parity between physical health and mental health;
- horizon scanning; and
- reviewing progress on achieving these outputs and outcomes.

### **The PMHG's approach will be to:**

- provide advocacy at local and national levels;

- learn and support each other in the group to make best use of the collective expertise as well as generating fresh insights to support the promotion of public mental health;
- if necessary, set up sub groups to progress pieces of work;
- provide a conduit to stakeholders via reports, social media and web based resources; and
- Report annually on work to Scottish Directors of Public Health and Scottish Health Promotion Managers

### **Membership of the Group**

The PMHG is a group of the Scottish Directors of Public Health and Health Promotion Managers. It will be chaired by a Director of Public Health. HPM deputy???

Membership of the group will be open to all those working within or with an interest in public mental health.

### **Frequency of meetings**

The work of the group will be taken forward through regular meetings – up to 4 times per year. Specific work may be progressed by members of the group between meetings.

It is expected that the commitment of members will be greater whilst the group is being established and a work programme developed, and more frequent meetings may be required at this stage.

### **Venues for meetings**

Venues will rotate according to wishes of group members. Video/Teleconference facilities will be provided where possible.

### **Reporting**

The chair will provide updates on the activities and progress of the PMHG to the SDsPH and SHPM regularly. It will provide a brief annual summary of its activities which will be shared with specialist public health colleagues.

### **Remit of the group**

It is expected that the group will be formed initially for 3 years. Its remit and membership of the group will be reviewed annually.