**PATIENTS’ FORUM FOR THE LAS**

MAY 23rd 2019

**DRAFT NOTE ON MEETING BETWEEN:**

JULES LOCKET - Practice Learning Manager – Control Services, LGBT Network Co-Chair

ALEX EWINGS - Sector Clinical Lead – NW - LGBT Network Co-Chair

JOSEPH HEALY – President, Patients’ Forum for the LAS

MALCOLM ALEXANDER – Chair, Patients’ Forum for the LAS

1. Agreed that Jules and Alex would address the Forum on September 9th -

6-7pm. They run the LAS LGBT network and are active in the National Ambulance LGBT Network.

1. They will provide a title for the Forum meeting and let us have material for the meeting a week before the public meeting. This may include information for members to read in advance of the Forum meeting. They will carry out some interactive work with members during the meeting.
2. **We discussed a number of themes for the meeting:**
* Respect for patients and staff in relation to their identity.
* Reinforcing positive messages about LGBT patients and staff.
* Training of all staff in relation to respecting and meeting the needs of LGBT patients including their sexual health.
* Role of Gendered Intelligence - an agency being brought in by the LAS to educate staff around trans and LGBT issues. <http://genderedintelligence.co.uk/about-us/our-aims>
* Recognising and challenging homophobic behaviour and all prejudice in relation to gender identity.
* Creating ‘safe space’ for patients who are LGBT
* Training of LAS staff in methodologies used to successfully collect data about the protected characteristics of staff and patients (111 service has made good progress with the collection of data on protected characteristics and their approach could be shared with other groups of staff).
* Providing examples of positive behaviour in the LAS towards people who identify as LGBT
* Very positive developments, which include the employment of trans staff across the LAS.
* Importance of diversity in the control room a catalyst to improve LGBT awareness.
* Enabling patients to disclose their HIV status without stigma, and ensuring that staff understand the significance of HIV viral load in relation to infection risk (which is nil for patients on treatment and with good infection control practice).
* Awareness of the incidence of HIV in different parts of London and possible significance in relation to training of LAS staff (Wandsworth, Lambeth and Southwark have the high incidence of HIV in London).
* Current status of Stonewall Index top 100 employers list for the LAS and the focus on Gendered Intelligence as the principal training agency rather than Stonewall. The LAS does not currently seek a place as one of the top 100 employers on the Stonewall Index.
1. The will be an LGBT health day prior to Pride (July 6)
2. The national Workforce Survey has the highest ever response rate in 2018/9 and included very positive responses from LGBT staff, but it is recognised that many staff do not disclose.
3. Ensure that staff who are members of the LGBT network, and other staff are invited to attend the Forum meeting.

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