

Mental health Opportunity for innovations

Context

The West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (WMAHSN) has a defined process for addressing the region's health delivery needs and challenges through asking for outcome-focused innovation proposals that can be received and agreed with our partners throughout the year. This document provides you with an overview of the areas in which we are interested in seeking to pull innovation proposals.

WMAHSN criteria

Proposals will be shortlisted against the following criteria:

- Regional scalability
- Fit with WMAHSN priorities and business plan
- Clear deliverables, outcomes measures and quality indicators
- Evidence of support across the region
- Patient/carer involvement
- Consistency with other WMAHSN themes
- Fit with the NHS Outcomes Framework
- Evidence of additional investment.

Priority – Mental health

The Mental Health Advisory Group (MHAG) has undertaken a stakeholder workshop and a series of discussions to establish a clear set of priorities for 2015 and beyond.

For future programmes of work, the WMAHSN is particularly interested in hearing of innovations in mental health which can deliver region-wide benefits in the following areas:

• **Enabling technology**

Examples include:

- Appointment and support of Chief Clinical Information Officers to champion use of technology in mainstream services to improve care and efficiency.
- Undertake evaluation and research to prove the benefits of technology enabled services and remove barriers to widespread adoption.
- Actively engage users, carers and care professionals, to identify opportunities to transform services using technology.
- Share information and knowledge between organisations, care professionals and users/carers.
- Agree new technology for implementation and bid for required funding.

• **Integrating care**

- Involving users/carers as a vehicle for continuity of care along pathways and across organisational and professional boundaries.
- Evaluate existing integrated models of care based close to users (e.g. at GP surgery).
- Develop integrated care pathways from a mental health perspective.

- Education and training of care professionals to promote understanding, raise awareness and reduce stigma associated with mental health.
- Establish innovative partnerships to bridge the gap between existing service providers (e.g. local gyms, schools).

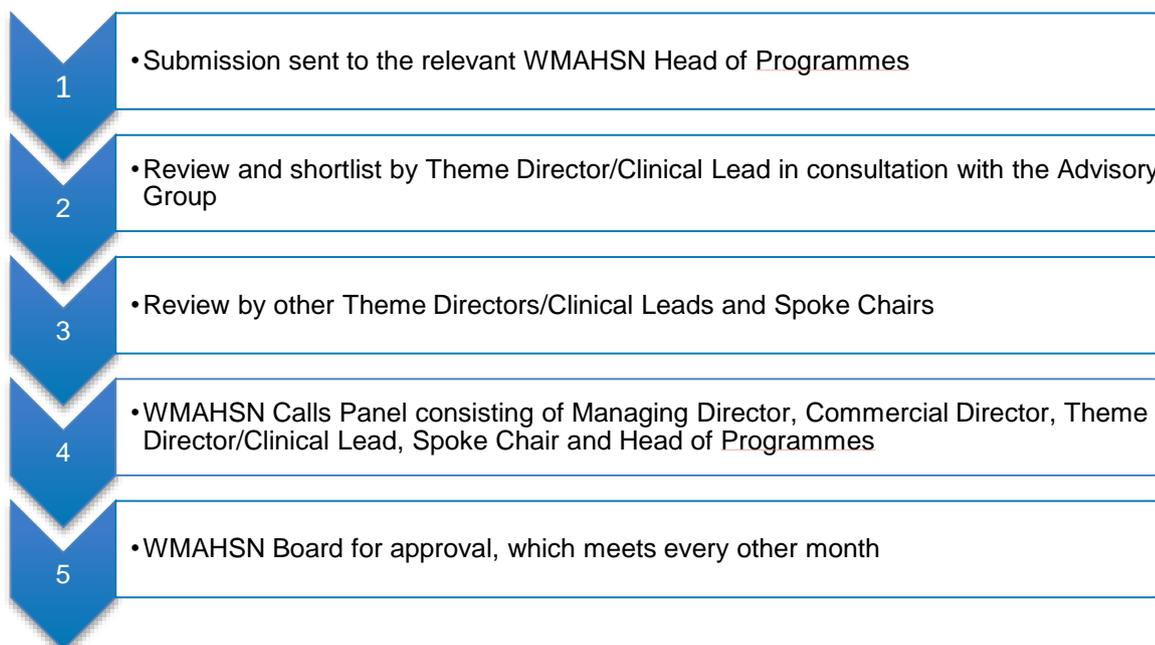
 **Prevention and wellbeing**

- Design of services which promote physical health and wellbeing of mental health service users.
- Develop and/or evaluate technology that supports wellness to reinforce the prevention agenda.
- Redesign services which focus resources on the promotion of mental wellbeing and the prevention of illness.

 **Co-production and co-design**

- Educate users and carers to be more empowered and productive participants in the design and delivery of care, not just passive recipients.
- Implement and evaluate the use of technology (e.g. mobile devices and social media) to support co-production.

Process



For any queries on the process please contact the relevant contact for assistance. A template for any submissions can be obtained from our website at www.wmahsn.org/get-involved/Opportunities or by emailing for a copy.

Theme	Contact	Email
Medicines optimisation and adherence	Lucy Chatwin	lucy.chatwin@wmahsn.org
Patient experience and feedback		
Wealth creation		

Digital health	Neil Mortimer	neil.mortimer@wmahsn.org
Mental health		
Open data		
Education and workforce for the future	Louise Stewart	louise.stewart@wmahsn.org
Integrated care	Lucy Chatwin and Neil Mortimer	lucy.chatwin@wmahsn.org
Long term conditions		neil.mortimer@wmahsn.org
Evidence and adoption		
Wellness and healthy ageing		
Patient safety	Peter Jeffries	peter.jeffries@wmahsn.org
