

THE PLYMOUTH ALLIANCE

Newsletter - January 2025 edition

Welcome to the latest edition of the Plymouth Alliance Newsletter.



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The Plymouth Alliance is commissioned and
funded by Plymouth City Council.

Thank you for reading The
Plymouth Alliance
Newsletter, we hope you
enjoyed it. If you have any
contributions or stories for a
future edition, please send
to amy.mackay2@nhs.net



VISION CARE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE (VCHP) AT SHEKINAH

Vision Care for Homeless People (VCHP) has opened our new clinic in Plymouth, dedicated to providing free eye care services to individuals experiencing homelessness, refugees, and other vulnerable groups to our local community.

The new clinic, located at Shekinah at Stonehouse Creek, operates every Thursday from 09:00 to 15:00. We held our inaugural clinic on Thursday, 9 January 2025, following a successful launch event in November attended by The Lord Mayor Councillor (Mrs) Tina Tuohy and Lady Mayoress Freya Hitt.

We warmly invite you to refer anyone who might benefit from our services. Appointments can now be booked directly by individuals or facilitated using this link: [VCHP Plymouth Clinic](#)

Bookings can also be taken by contacting [Shekinah](#) directly.

For more information about VCHP and our mission, please visit our [website](#). As a charity, we are always keen for support, whether this is via referrals, outreach, donations or volunteering.



We'd also love for you and/or your colleagues to visit our clinic to see our services in action. If you think it would be beneficial - please feel free to reach out to schedule a visit or enquire if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to working together to make a positive impact in our community.

VCHP

COWORKING AT THE ZONE

At your convenience...

The Zone remains committed to providing a welcoming and convenient 'One Stop Shop' of Integrated Service Provision for Young People, in what is an easily accessible and trusted location in the city centre. In support of the existing work we do for homelessness prevention, we have been piloting the co-location of additional allied services to enhance our offer for improving outcomes.

Since October 2024 we have offered a space for the co-location of:

- a DWP Youth Employability Coach
- a Care Leavers Nurse
- a worker from the King's Trust
- Trevi's Young Person's Outreach Worker

This integrated offer is provided on the third Tuesday afternoon of each month, and enables young people to have a range of their needs met under one roof via one visit.

Operationally, the DWP Youth Employability Coaches organise appointments in advance and state that the first few sessions have been amazing and really useful, resulting in a reduction of DNA's. They have also been able to immediately refer their young people to the other services delivered in the building such as counselling or sexual health. The DWP has thanked the Zone Accommodation Project (ZAP) for helping to facilitate this new initiative.

This venture is a welcome addition to the services already provided by ZAP in partnership with other organisations. It builds upon previous established co-location of:

- a Harbour Transitions Worker
- a Mental Health Practitioner for CAMHS (16-25)
- a PCC Community Connections Officer for the U.25s

The Zone does not currently charge for access to our building from these services, as we value the importance of enabling partners to come together for provision of a more inclusive and centralised service. We are in the process of agreeing plans for the future co-location of smoking cessation and HPV clinics, thus further extending our offer for making access to services a lot more convenient.

The Zone



THE HUB & TEAM AROUND ME (TAM)

Community Connections are pleased to announce the successful launch of The HUB, the single point of access for single people, couples and rough sleepers, which went live on 7 January 2025. This innovative process has been embraced by all providers, who are actively engaging to support its implementation and ensure its effectiveness.

Since its inception, over 50 nominations have been made, reflecting a strong initial uptake. The majority of these clients have already been booked for readiness assessments, an essential step in the pathway. To date, around 10 individuals have progressed to being placed on providers' waitlists, and we are thrilled to report 6 positive moves from waitlists into accommodation.

With The Hub becoming more trauma informed and person centred, where necessary a Team Around Me (TAM) meeting will be held. TAM is a model for holding case conferences or multi-agency meetings for people experiencing multiple disadvantage, which truly puts the person at the centre of their own support. The meeting is organised and co-ordinated by the HUB Co-ordinators. A member of the Leadership Team will facilitate each of the weekly meetings on a rotating basis.



TAM meetings aim to:

- Work preventively, creatively and actively develop interventions and solutions for single people and couples who are at homeless and/or rough sleeping or at risk of homelessness/ and or rough sleeping.
- Match individuals and couples to supported and temporary accommodation services.
- Develop and recommend bespoke packages and tailored solutions.
- Escalate cases where no realistic housing solution can be sourced to the HUB Leadership Team.
- Escalate cases, issues and trends to the HUB Leadership Team.

TAM training began in January with further sessions taking place in February. This training has been well attended with future sessions being fully booked. For those who were unable to attend the training, new starters and for a refresher, The Hub Leadership group are looking at producing training materials for the TAM model.

PARTNERSHIPS AND PATHWAYS

2025

Join us to learn more about services, build relationships and links with other Alliance partners and improve pathways.



Tuesday 4 March

Homelessness

9:30am - 12pm, Hamoaze House



Tuesday 25 March

Substance Use

1:30pm - 4pm, Hamoaze House

NEW
TO THE
ALLIANCE?

Don't forget to also come along to an Alliance Induction session. The next session is on Monday 3 March at 3pm. More information on the Alliance Noticeboard on page 13 of this newsletter.



I found it really helpful to network and expand on my knowledge of what the Alliance has to offer.



The sessions will take place at Hamoaze House, George Street, Mount Wise, Plymouth, PL1 4QJ.
Refreshments will be provided.

If you would like any further information, or to book a place, please speak to your manager and email the Alliance Business Support Coordinator - amy.mackay2@nhs.net

‘YOUR STORY’ PROJECT

Changing Futures Plymouth would like to invite you to a webinar that shares learning from the ‘Your Story’ project. The webinar will be held on Microsoft Teams on 7 February at 10am, and will be recorded for people who are unable to make the session.

The aim of the Your Story project is to explore ways in which we can promote culture change within assessment practice, where ways of working between individuals and services are more relational, human, power-balanced, and trauma-informed.

Through co-production methods, a tool has been developed by people with lived experience to enable people experiencing multiple disadvantage to:

- Take control of their information when using services
- Empower them to share their story in a way that matters to them
- Reduce the need to repeat their story and risk re-traumatisation.



This webinar provides an opportunity to:

- Illustrate the aims of the Your Story project and the process so far
- Share learnings from the co-production groups and early feedback from the pilot
- Discuss how practitioners can use the tool to support person-centred and trauma-sensitive ways of working

To register for the event, please click the “book now” button. If you have any questions, feel free to email Katy.Krysiak@plymouth.gov.uk or Emma.Stevens@plymouth.gov.uk



Shekinah's Annual Charity Ball

Saturday 17th May 2025

Please dress to impress

Music til late!!!!

Free glass of Prosecco

***5.00 - 6.00 pm arrival
for 6.30 pm sit down***

£55 a ticket or £500 for a table of 10

To book your tickets please email:

Daniela.austin@shekinah.co.uk or

Kristy.winters@shekinah.co.uk

Boringdon Park Golf Club

55 Plymbridge Road

Plympton

Plymouth

Devon

PL7 4QG



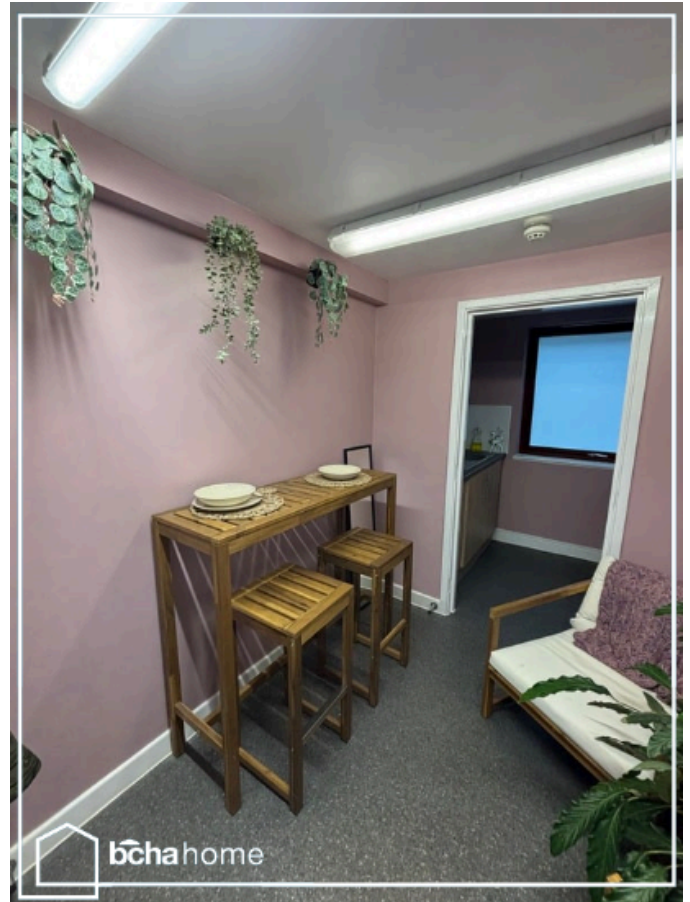
UPDATE FROM BCHA

Developments at BCHA

George House has seen some exciting new developments. Faced with increasing demand in the system for accommodation, BCHA converted the existing staff room into a lettable room and converted a previously unused office into a new relaxation space for staff.

The George House break room has been relocated and thoughtfully decorated in PIE (psychologically informed environment) colours by the team. We hope to convert other spaces in George House to have more rooms available in 2025 to offer accommodation to those who most need them.

BCHA were successful in securing funding to provide 11 accessible properties for those with complex needs or disabilities. The Supported Housing Accommodation Programme (SHAP) is due to be fully let and operational by the end of March. Four offers have already been made to customers who have been in B&B accommodation for some time due to their additional needs.



SWEP – Thank You

BCHA want to say a big thank you to all those involved with the Severe Weather Protocol (SWEP) that was called earlier this month. Julie Dennis, Business Manager for BCHA, was pleased with how well everyone in the Alliance was able to come together to help those experiencing homelessness in the cold weather. PATH Outreach Team, particularly Emily, were instrumental in helping the team at George House in supporting people who came in and we were blown away by her effectiveness and communication. Thank you, Emily & all members of the Alliance!



THANK YOU!

Special Shout Out

A huge thank you to Fuel Catering, who provided and delivered 38 meals to our temporary accommodation on Christmas Eve!



HAMOAZE A TCTC MEMBER

Hamoaze House is now a member of The Consortium of Therapeutic Communities (TCTC). TCTC is a members association which promotes a values based approach to working with people. We believe that relationships and shared responsibility are central to all organisations and that the overall social environment is critical to the effectiveness of any service.



Therapeutic Communities (TCs) are settings where the whole context; the physical environment, the way the day is planned and the relationships a person has, are considered to be part of the therapeutic process. Hamoaze House sees this membership as a part of the path toward us becoming a centre of excellence in Structured Day Care Provision.

Hamoaze



TCTC MEMBER

THIS CERTIFICATE PRESENTED TO

Hamoaze House

TCTC is a membership charity for all those connected with, interested or involved in the delivery of relationship-based support and treatment across the entire human lifespan.

Dr Chris Nicholson

DR CHRIS NICHOLSON
Chair of TCTC



Membership expires: November 2025



Festive Appeal raises over £1,700

BCHA have had an amazing Christmas thanks to the success of our Festive Appeal. This year, we raised a massive £1,756, donated from both businesses and individuals. The money was split across our services, from which we were able to provide Christmas dinners, gifts and hampers for our customers. BCHA also received several non-monetary donations from local businesses.

Secretly Delivering Smiles (SDS), through Promoting Children in Plymouth (PCiP), purchased gifts for children in temporary accommodation in place of a 'Secret Santa' (pictured on the right with our Families Team).

Rev7, located in Mutley, donated vouchers to Primrose and our domestic abuse services, allowing our customers to get hair washes, cuts and nail treatments. We also received gift hampers from charity Three for a Girl, a Christmas food hamper from Bidfood and a special food donation from Bristol FC!



Harbour and the Dogs Trust

For the third year running Harbour have worked with the Dogs Trust to provide Doggie Christmas Presents to dogs of clients accessing services at Harbour. As part of the Dogs Trust Together Through Homelessness project, dog coats, toys and treats were distributed to pooches.

It was lovely to be able to reward the furry friends who do so much to support those accessing our services throughout the year - most often offering their unconditional love and support. A big thank you also to the Dogs Trust for including us in the project.





Path Acquires New Property to Support Rough Sleepers in Plymouth

Path has recently acquired a new property! This seven-bedroom property, which has been fully refurbished and features en-suite facilities in every room, will provide much-needed accommodation for individuals who are currently sleeping rough.

The new property will be managed by the Path Multi Agency Rough Sleeper Team (Mars), ensuring that it is overseen by experienced professionals dedicated to supporting the homeless community. Places in the property will be offered to those who have been verified as rough sleepers in Plymouth and who do not have any current alternative housing options.



Funded with support from the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) via Plymouth City Council. Referrals via the Rough Sleepers Team only.

Path

Hamoaze CEO

We are delighted to announce that, following a period of exceptional leadership as Acting CEO, Andy Maguire has been appointed as the permanent Chief Executive Officer of Hamoaze House, effective 1st January 2025.

Over the past year, Andy has demonstrated remarkable vision, dedication, and an unwavering ability to lead with integrity and purpose. Under his guidance, we have embarked on a meaningful redesign and strengthening of our charity, setting a solid foundation for future growth and success. This decision reflects our confidence in Andy's ability to steer Hamoaze House toward continued excellence and innovation. We are excited about the opportunities ahead under his leadership.

Please join us in congratulating Andy on this well-deserved appointment and in offering him our full support as we embark on the next chapter together.

Thank you for your continued commitment in your partnerships with Hamoaze House and to the community we all serve.

Susan Hobbs
Chair of Board of Trustees, Hamoaze House

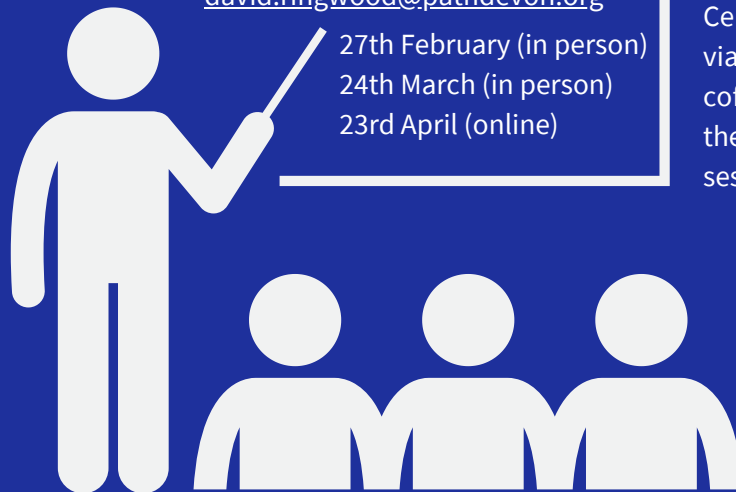


THE ALLIANCE NOTICE BOARD

Tenancy Training

The sessions will cover topics including:

- Legal requirements of landlords
- Legal obligations of tenants
- Different types of eviction notices
- Supporting people to secure private rented accommodation
- Getting deposits, rent in advance and applying for benevolent funds
- Finding furnishings, white goods and other local resources



All sessions are 10am to 1pm. Please email Dave to book – david.ringwood@pathdevon.org

27th February (in person)
24th March (in person)
23rd April (online)

Sessions are in person at Path offices (Harwell Centre) and online via Teams. Tea and coffee available for the in person sessions.

A poster with a dark blue background and white pine branches. At the top is a logo with the word 'HARBOUR' in white on a blue and green background. Below it, the text 'YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR' is in small white capital letters. The main title 'DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED DEATHS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE' is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, 'TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2025' is in white capital letters. At the bottom, there are three sections: 'STARTS AT 1.30PM' in white, 'ST ANDREWS CHURCH PLYMOUTH' in white, and 'ALL WELCOME' in white.

HARBOUR

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL
RELATED DEATHS
REMEMBRANCE
SERVICE**

TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2025

STARTS AT
1.30PM

**ST ANDREWS
CHURCH
PLYMOUTH**

**ALL
WELCOME**

Second Changing Future Peer Research Film

Below is the link to the 2nd short film capturing the learning from the peer research network and the strengths their experiences bring:

**Changing Futures Plymouth -
Making the Difference.**

Work is underway on the third film which shows 'what next' for the peer researchers.

If a reminder of the first film on trauma informed recruitment is helpful, you can find it here:

Changing Futures Plymouth: **A
Trauma Informed Approach to
Recruitment**

Changing Futures

THE ALLIANCE NOTICE BOARD

Zebra Collective Conversations that Challenge

Launching the Zebra Collective 2025 Conversations the Challenge Programme.



Deconstructing Autism: A critical inquiry and implications for practice
Thursday 13 February 12:30-2:00 via ZOOM. Fee: £10.



Join us for a 'conversation that challenges' with Professor Rudi Dallos as we deconstruct our understanding of autism & the source of the struggle that people might be facing. For more information info@zebra.coop

In Person Adult Safeguarding Training

3rd February 2025 – 12:30 – 16:30 & 6th March 2025 – 12:30 – 16:30

Venue: Forresters House, 41 Estover Close, Estover, Plymouth PL6 7PL

Please send all requests for places to the Adult Safeguarding Training mailbox adultsafeguardingtraining@plymouth.gov.uk with names of staff and email addresses as soon as possible.

Introduction to the Alliance Session

If you would like to know more about the work of the Plymouth Alliance, you can book onto one of the Introduction to the Alliance Sessions.

These sessions take place every quarter and the next session is on Monday 3 March 2025, 3pm - 4pm at Harbour (Hyde Park House).



If you would like to attend please email the Alliance Business Support Coordinator, Amy Mackay - amy.mackay2@nhs.net



BORINGDON PARK
GOLF CLUB



Shekinah Golf day

Friday 11th July
Boringdon Park Golf Club

Breakfast baps from 0830
Tee Time from 0900

Team of 4 players
£200
including all fees &
1 course evening meal

Individual hole
sponsorship
opportunities only £50
per hole!

Prizes for the top 3 teams,
longest drive and nearest
the pin!

Auction and Raffle prizes to
be won!

Please get in touch if you
would like to know more!

Main sponsor for the day



For more details email kristy.winters@shekinah.co.uk or
daniela.austin@shekinah.co.uk