

Cheshire and Merseyside Community ACP Forum: From Vision to Reality

Introduction

Community services have been undergoing significant change. ACP roles are making significant contributions to national community health, urgent community response and enhanced care in care home agendas. Support of such roles is vital to success.



Aims/objectives

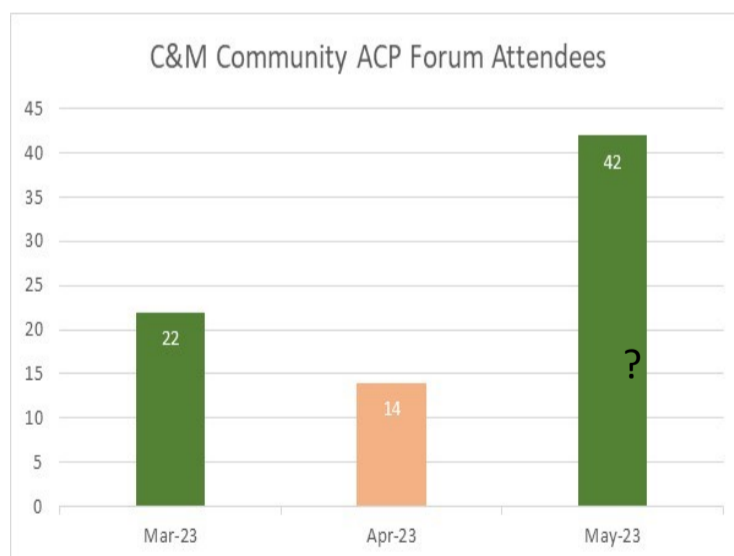
The aim of the forum is to provide a space for local ACPs and tACPs in community roles to come together for peer to peer development and support. The forum aims to meet monthly via Teams.

Project Details

The forum vision was discussed with the NW faculty. Introductions were made to Sara Dalby (AP Lead for Cheshire and Merseyside). Personal inexperience was acknowledged! Helpful links were made with those running a forum in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Draft terms of reference were written. A presentation was made at the Cheshire and Merseyside AP leads meeting. A flier was created and distributed via AP leads and Community Ambassadors.

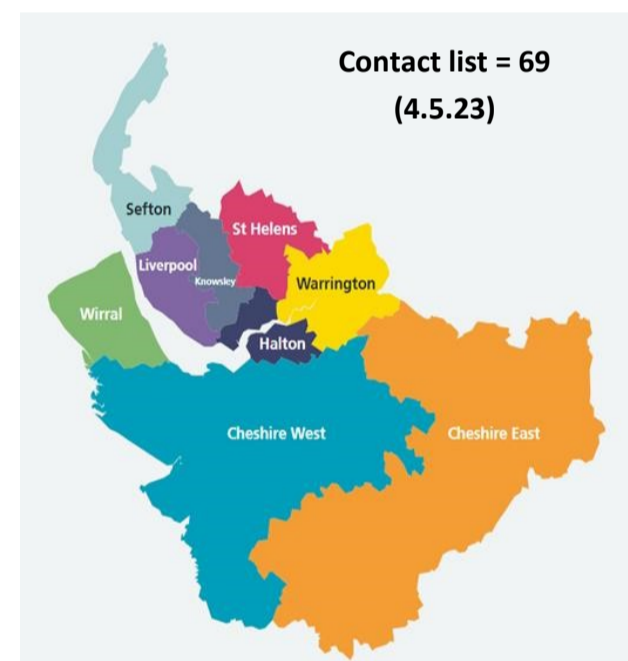
Outcomes

The forum met for the first time on 15.3.23. 22 ACPs/tACPs attended from multiple organisations. There was clear enthusiasm regarding the potential benefits. Predicted attendance in May is 42.



Conclusions/impact

It is hoped that the forum will provide valuable peer support for those in challenging & potentially isolating roles. The forum will impact personal development in all 4 pillars of advanced practice. It will allow opportunity for development of **clinical** skills (via shared CPD activities), **education** (via provision of a safe space for peer presentations), **research** skills (via sharing of professional curiosity) and **leadership** (via shared agendas and rotating chair opportunities).



References

- NHS England (n.d.). *Community Health Services*. [NHS England » Community health services](#)
- NHS England. (2019). *The NHS Long Term Plan*. Retrieved from [NHS Long Term Plan v1.2 August 2019](#)

Caroline Walker , Community ACP (Team BDP)