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To: All Chief Executives Mental Health Trusts

Gateway No : 7280

Dear colleagues

As part of a programme to modernise service delivery, we are taking forward work on outcomes measurement in mental health services. Measuring outcomes is one way of helping us to reflect on practice, and inform service improvement. An important aspect of this is to collaborate with people who use services, carers and the people who provide and deliver care to make sure that the methods being used have real value.

In support of this work the Department of Health and Care Services Improvement Partnership have instigated a National Outcomes Measures project. The project is overseen by a steering group chaired by Dr Hugh Griffiths, Deputy National Director of Mental Health at the Department of Health and Ingrid Steele, Director of Communications and Knowledge services in CSIP.

The project will work with practitioners, people who use services, carers and partner organisations to publish a compendium of commonly used outcome tools along with supporting guidance. This work will be directed by the Outcomes Practice group that will be jointly chaired by Albert Persaud, Senior Policy Advisor, CSIP and Department of Health, and Simon Pearson Information and Informatics lead for CSIP. The practice group will be made up of practitioners from the field and people that have experience and in-depth knowledge of tools and their application.

The aim of the compendium is to provide a resource with guidance about the available tools in practice to measure outcomes in mental health services for all age groups. It will also provide guidance on how services can implement outcome measures to improve quality and establish good practice.

The project would like to secure the voluntary involvement of people and services that use these tools to find out about their experience of using them in practice. This would require little effort in terms of time and involve providing information about outcomes tools used. Those who would like to be more involved will have the chance to contribute directly to the practice group. We are aware of some excellent work and will be contacting individuals in the near future to enquire about their potential involvement in this work. We would be grateful for any support you can provide in helping us to take this work forward. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact [Margaret.Oates@csip.org.uk](mailto:Margaret.Oates@csip.org.uk)

Many thanks

Albert Persaud, Simon Pearson