

The Mental Health Act, Race and Ethnicity; what are the key issues for AMHPs now?

Wednesday 15th October 2020

Short Biographies of Presenters

Dr Ruth Allen became Chief Executive of the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) in April 2016. Previously to that she was Director of Social Work at South West London & St Georges' Mental Health NHS Trust and also had a research role with St George's University of London.

She has a particular interest and experience in leadership development in social work and in developing social work's role within mental health.

Dr Allen holds a Master's degree in Social Work and a Professional Doctorate in Education, both awarded by the University of Sussex.

Mark Trewin is the Mental Health Social Work Lead at the Dept of Health and Social Care, working in the office of the Chief Social Worker. He is also the chair of the mental health social work group at Health Education England. Mark was on the working group of the Mental Health Act Review and is part of the Centre for Mental Health Equalities Commission. Mark has worked as a mental health social worker, a forensic social worker, a trainer and a manager of supported housing and day services. For 10 years he was a senior manager for mental health and social care in in Yorkshire, working with a range of agencies in a mental health partnership.

Valbona Demiri is a social worker, AMHP/BIA with 10 years of experience in Mental Health, and 12 years working for Reading Borough Council .

Natasha Sloman is a social worker and AMHP by background who worked predominantly with rough sleepers with severe mental health problems in Central London. For many years she was head of social work and social care with Camden and Islington Foundation Trust before moving on to work as a head of inspection for the South East region at the Care Quality Commission. At CQC she was national lead for equalities and developed and led the inspection programme of assessing mental health provision in ED. She now works at the Priory Group within the Healthcare division as the director of quality and is Group lead for social work.

Wayne Reid is a Professional Officer & Social Worker for BASW England and lives in Sheffield. Wayne qualified as a Social Worker in 2010, but the entirety of his social care experience spans nearly 20 years. As a black male Social Worker, Wayne understands some of the challenges that service-users and practitioners from different minority groups can face. Wayne's presentation will focus on the trajectory of his career, key learning points and his vision for the Black & Ethnic Minority Professionals (BPS) Symposium.

Nimal Jude is a registered social worker. She is currently seconded from SCIE to work on the WRES. She was previously involved in establishing Social Work England, Teaching Partnerships and implementation of various social work reform activities.

Renée Aleong is in the second year of her PhD exploring the compulsory detention of Black people under the Mental Health Act 1983. She gained extensive experience of working within the Ministry of Justice and the Nursery and Midwifery Council prior to undertaking her BA in Social Work and MA in Social Research at the University of York. She is now in the 2nd year of her PhD, which is funded by an Economic and Social Research Council scholarship.