

BE THE CHANGE

The sixth national service user involvement conference

9am-10am: Registration and refreshments

10.00am-11.15am: Opening session, chaired by [Alex Boyt](#)

- Drug use as a specific health issue, a service user's perspective. Speaker tbc.
- [Steve Brinkman](#): a family GP's view of how drug and alcohol treatment should fit into the new public health framework.
- Head of Drugs and Alcohol at the Department of Health Chris Heffer: the place of drug and alcohol treatment in the public health framework.

Questions from the floor

11.15am-11.45am: Refreshments

11.45am-12.45am: Practical workshops, focusing on essential information and skills.

Choose between:

Employment and enterprise

- Mhairi Doyle, social inclusion manager, Jobcentre Plus.
- [Amar Lodhia](#), chief exec of The Small Business Consultancy (supporting people from disadvantaged backgrounds to become entrepreneurs): tackling social mobility and unemployment through business and enterprise.

The right to treatment

- How to deal with services' requests for reducing scripts.
- Steve Brinkman GP on medically assisted recovery and communicating with health professionals in an informed way.
- [Ken Stringer](#) on asserting your rights to appropriate treatment.
- Input from Francis Cook of [The National User Network](#) on getting the right healthcare.

Setting up and managing a group

- Kevin Jaffray, [SUSSED](#).
- Peter Yarwood, [Lancashire User Forum](#), on fundraising for group survival.

Asset-based recovery

A rousing interactive session led by [Alistair Sinclair](#) on exploring commonality while celebrating difference.

How to engage

- Mark Brown from [One in Four](#), on recovery and engagement in the mental health field.
- Nigel Brunsdon from [HIT](#) and [Injecting Advice](#) on tips and tricks for social networking.

12.45pm-2.00pm: Lunch and activities

- Service user and provider exhibitions.
- Workforce and social enterprise zone.
- Alternative therapy zone.
- Open meetings with NUN and other organizations.
- Live music.
- Open mic 'Soapbox' area.
- Drop-in suggestion wall.
- Harm Reduction café.

2.00pm-3.30pm: Afternoon session

Interactive session

- An interactive session, chaired by [Carole Sharma](#). Carole is chief executive of [The Federation of Drug and Alcohol Professionals](#) (FDAP).

Service user presentations

- With the launch of Public Health England in April, and budget priorities being decided at a local level, it is more important than ever for there to be a coherent user-led campaign to ensure drug and alcohol treatment continues to be seen as a priority. The forefront of this campaign will be local service user and recovery groups who can fight to break down stigma, and persuade budget holders of the value of continued funding of all drug and alcohol services. The session will hear three short presentations from individuals and groups on how they are active in their local areas

Now it is your turn – we want to hear your story.

- **The roving mics will be passed around the floor so we can hear from as many groups and individuals as possible. We want to hear what you are doing and how it is changing lives. By sharing our common experiences we can learn from each other and empower one another to work together in the fight for fairer treatment and increased opportunities for all. Please come prepared to have your say!**

- The session will end with a rousing keynote speech from [Andrea Efthimiou-Mordaunt](#). Andrea has been a health campaigner and activist for over 20 years. She arranged for the first presentation by an ex injecting HIV positive person to the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs about the failures of prohibition. Andrea is chair of the [John Mordaunt Trust](#), an advocacy project set up to campaign for the health and human rights of ex/current injectors affected by HIV and other blood-borne infections. Andrea's story demonstrates how you can make your voice heard, and will emphasise the importance of continued lobbying and campaigning.

3.30pm: Finish and free entry to the [Motorbike Museum](#)

Free shuttle buses will run to the station from 3.30pm onwards.