



Better together:
Building better local mental health services and support
Tell us what you think

1. Introduction

The long-standing Director of the Corner House mental health resource centre (which is run by Shoreham District Mental Health Association) in Southwick left at the end of August. The Corner House Board of Trustees have decided not to appoint a new Director straight away. This is because they want to take the opportunity that has been created by their Director leaving to explore with the Board of Coastal West Sussex Mind whether working more closely and possibly merging with Coastal West Sussex Mind would deliver better services and support for local people with mental health problems and Corner House service users.

The Boards of both organisations are doing a lot of work to carefully consider this and part of looking closely at this will be asking service users, staff and other stakeholders what they think about it. This document, therefore, explains why this is being considered and asks you to tell us what you think about it.

2. Background – How things run at the moment and what we are proposing

- At the moment CWSX Mind and Shoreham District Mental Health Association (who run The Corner House) are 2 different charities.
- The proposal we are considering would be that Shoreham District Mental Health Association would become part of Coastal West Sussex Mind and together we would continue to run the Corner House service alongside the other services currently run by Coastal West Sussex Mind.

3. Why we are considering this

- Both charities have worked closely together for many years because we provide very similar services which are local to each other.
- Because of this our staff and managers have always worked together closely and the development of the Pathfinder Alliance has meant that this has increased.
- In addition, because both of our charities are mainly funded by the NHS through the same Pathfinder Alliance contract both of us will have to develop and change our services to some extent over time to fit in with this new Pathfinder development. So, our services are likely to become even more similar.
- Both charities have had to contribute a lot of management time and effort into being involved in Pathfinder and we think it could be more efficient if we came together which could lead to more resources for mental health support in the local area.
- Local people and service users in both our services could benefit from our combined skills and expertise and also a more flexible approach to accessing all our services in the local area.
- We think we could be stronger and more effective together – We are both small charities and there is less risk of service closure or reduction if staff are absent or leave if together we are larger.

4. Tell us what you think

We want you to tell us what you think about our proposal. You can do this by filling in the survey form on the next page and returning it to:

Better Together Survey
C/O Coastal West Sussex Mind
The Gateway
8-10 Durrington Lane
Worthing
WestSussex
BN132QG

Alternatively, you can do this survey on-line by using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LLG83S8>

The closing date for completing the survey is Friday 23rd November 2018.

5. Next steps

The Boards of trustees of both Boards will complete all of their exploration by the end of December and will then consider all of the evidence (including the findings of this survey) to support making a decision in January. If the CWSX Mind Board wishes to proceed with a merger then they will call an Extraordinary General Meeting in January to ask members to agree to this decision prior to any decision being finally and fully made.

Better together survey: Tell us what you think....

Are you?	Please tick
A Corner House Service User?	
A CWSX Mind Service User?	
A carer of someone using the Corner House?	
A carer of someone using CWSX Mind services?	
A Corner House member of staff?	
A CWSX Mind member of staff?	
A Corner House Volunteer?	
A CWSX Mind volunteer?	
A Corner House Trustee?	
A CWSX Mind trustee?	
Another mental health service provider?	
A funder or commissioner of services?	
Another interested party/stakeholder?	

Questions
<p>What do you think is positive about our proposal for the Corner House to become part of CWSX Mind?</p>
<p>What concerns or worries you about our proposal for the Corner House to become part of CWSX Mind?</p>
<p>Do you have any ideas or suggestions of things we can do to address your concerns?</p>
<p>Is there anything else you would like to say about our proposal?</p>

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