

PCN PPG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 21st April 2026

Location: The Northway Medical Centre

Chair: David Gill

Minute Taker: Ashleigh Dodd

1. Opening and Apologies

- David Gill opened the meeting and thanked Cicely for sharing chair duties.

Present

David Gill – Chair- Lower Gornal PPG

Cicely Thomas – Ridgeway PPG

Anne Wakefield – Ridgeway PPG

Tim Jevons – Northway PPG

Karen Evans – Ridgeway PPG

Harvey Woolf – Northway PPG

Anne Whitham – Northway PPG

Sue Smith – Lower Gornal PPG

Christine Bate – Lower Gornal PPG

Jodie Jones – Practice Manager Castle Meadows/Coseley Medical Centre

Russell Gardner – Practice Manager Northway/Lower Gornal

Kathryn Banfield- Clinical Director of BSMHFT

Michael Sansbury – Chief Inspector

Apologies

Joy Powell – Ridgeway PPG

Ian Campbell – Ridgeway PPG

Wendy Rigby – Ridgeway PPG

2. Presentation — Kathryn Banfield, Clinical Director of BSMHFT Lead Physical Health Clinical Educator, Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust

Kathryn introduced herself, outlined her role and background and presented a slideshow explaining the following:

Physical Health Risks for those with severe mental illness.

- Obesity
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Type 2 diabetes
- Some antipsychotic medicines, such as olanzapine, can cause weight gain and increase heart and metabolic risks.

Key Points and Statistics

- People with SMI live on average 15–20 years less than the general population.
- The main causes of death are heart disease and stroke, respiratory disease, cancer.

Reasons for Poorer Health Outcomes

- Physical symptoms are sometimes wrongly assumed to be caused by mental illness
- Higher rates of smoking, alcohol & substance misuse, Hepatitis C, homelessness and deprivation, negative healthcare experiences can stop people seeking help.

She explained that physical healthcare for people with SMI remains inadequate and that better integration between physical and mental healthcare is needed.

Please see attached slides from presentation.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Previous meeting minutes were discussed for approval.

4. Matters Arising to include update on revival of POPS

An email from Helen about the POPS programme will be reviewed.

5. Presentation: Domestic Abuse – Chief Inspector Michael Sansbury

Police responses to high-risk domestic abuse cases are now more proactive and evidence-led.

Evidence used includes:

- 999 calls
- Statements from neighbours
- Digital evidence and forensics
- Around 140 staff manage high-risk cases across the Black Country.

Challenges

- Victims may be reluctant to engage due to fear or control by perpetrators.
- Counter-allegations and harassment cases can be legally complex.
- Multi-agency working is important.

Medical Records and Safeguarding

Medical records usually require patient consent. In serious safeguarding situations, information may be shared under Caldicott principles.

Community Engagement

Michael asked for honest feedback from communities about policing and victim support. Better links between police, health services, and communities were encouraged.

Important Services Mentioned

- IRIS service for GP domestic abuse referrals.
- MARAC for managing high-risk domestic abuse cases.
- Tobacco dependency and substance misuse services.

6. Review of Health Day in Gornal on 19th March

Cicely updated the group. The day went ok but slow. Before the next one, formats and timings will be reviewed. CT is currently working on a fundraiser and will update accordingly.

7. Update from Practices

Concerns raised about low uptake of AAA screening among men and the availability for women.

No other updates.

8. PCN newsletter

Michael & Kathryn to write a short passage to be included in the next newsletter.

9. What PPGs want from PCN meetings

To be discussed at next meeting.

10. Any Other Business

- Suggestion to have one main speaker at future meetings to allow more time for business items.
- Mention of the "Orange the World" campaign and possible involvement.

Actions Agreed

- Circulate Kathryn's slides and video to attendees.
- Continue partnership work between health services and police on domestic abuse referrals.
- Review Helen's POPS programme email and decide next steps.

Key recommendations

- Improve links between physical and mental healthcare services.
- Strengthen referral pathways between healthcare, mental health, substance misuse, and police services.
- Improve community feedback systems for domestic abuse services.

Thanks given to speakers and attendees

Date of next meeting:

21st July 2026 1:30pm at The Northway Medical Centre