



the public service union

Manchester Community and Mental Health Branch

c/o Trade Union Office
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Branch Annual General Meeting 2017

You are invited to attend the final Annual General Meeting of this branch

Friday 24th March, 5.30pm-7.30pm

followed by a Branch Social

Mechanics Institute, 103 Princess Street, Manchester

There will be a buffet from 5.30-6.15pm; meeting will start at 6.15pm;
social will start after end of meeting, approx 7.30pm

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Dear Member

You are invited to attend the Branch Annual General Meeting on the evening of Friday 24th March.
The meeting will be followed by a Social, to celebrate what the branch has achieved in the past, and
to look forward to the future.

We know it seems a long time ahead, but we have to give enough notice to receive nominations and
to hold postal ballot elections if necessary, and to circulate motions. So please put this date in your
diary, and make every effort to attend.

The issues we'll be discussing will include:

- The future for the Branch structure following merger of MMHSCT with
GMW – what this will mean for all the different sections of the branch
Campaigning for the NHS – against government austerity measures and
cuts in local health services and jobs, as proposed in the Greater
Manchester Sustainability and Transformation Plan
Any motions which members submit

Come to the Branch AGM and have your say

The last year has seen continued attacks by the government on the NHS, and there is still inadequate
funding for health services, especially mental health services. The Manchester deserves better campaign
and service user legal action were successful in saving the recovery-based and specialist psychological
services in MMHSCT. Other parts of the NHS within the branch, such as Health Education North West, NHS
England and Public Health England have suffered from restructuring and redundancies. We need all
members active and ready to be involved in campaigning – to save services and jobs and to fight for the
future of the NHS. The proposed massive cuts in health and social care in the Greater Manchester STP,
under the direction of 'Devo Manc' and within the overall continuing government austerity plan, mean that we
will have to go on campaigning if we are going to keep the NHS.

**Time off to attend the AGM:** If you want to come to the AGM and you would normally be at work at that time, do request your manager to give you the paid time off. We will be informing MMH&SCT about the AGM and requesting them to give paid time off to those members who are normally at work at that time.

**Motions:** At the meeting we will also discuss motions which would set Branch policy. If you wish to submit a motion on any subject in which you are interested, send it to Ben Jackson, Branch Secretary, at the above address in writing by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017** (so that we can circulate them to before the meeting). If you need help writing a motion, contact your steward or the Branch Secretary.

**Election of Branch Officers:** Nominations are invited for: Secretary, Chairperson, Treasurer, Communication, Education, Equality, Health & Safety, International, Lifelong Learning Coordinator, Membership, Welfare, Young Members (26 and under), Labour Link (elected by members who pay the political levy only), Retired Members (elected by the retired members). If you or anyone you know wants to stand, please send their name to the Branch Secretary at the above address by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. You can nominate as many people for as many posts as you like. Any posts can be **shared**, so two people can be nominated for the same post and share the full responsibility. **If you'd like to know more about what any of these posts would involve, please contact the Branch Secretary.**

If there is more than one nomination for any post *and the nominees don't want to share* there will be an election by postal ballot. Where no valid nomination has been received before the deadline, nominations may be called for and candidates elected at the AGM.

**Election of Stewards:** It is up to any group of members (usually about 25-30 members) to elect a steward. **You all need to re-elect your existing steward or nominate someone new** - please send in your nominations in writing by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. If there is more than one nomination for a group of members, then the members in that group will hold an election.

**Election of Health and Safety Representatives:** It is up to any group of members (usually about 25-30 members) to elect a Health and Safety Rep. You all need to re-elect your existing Health and Safety Rep or nominate someone new - please send in your nominations in writing by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. If there is more than one nomination for a group of members, then the members in that group will hold an election.

**Please Note: You can nominate someone to be both a Steward and a Health and Safety Rep – and they can be a Branch Officer as well (if you really want to overload them!)**

**Dependant Care:** The branch will pay a maximum of £16 for child or other dependant care if the meeting you attend is at a time when you wouldn't normally work and you wouldn't normally have to pay for dependant care. Bring a receipt for the amount to the meeting, showing the name and address of the carer.

**Transport:** The branch will pay for taxis or help to arrange lifts if you would have any problems getting to or from the meeting.

**Access Requirements:** If you require any help with access (eg, mobility, documents in large print, a signer at the meeting) please contact the Branch Secretary.

**Dietary Requirements:** Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements for the buffet.

### **Ben Jackson, Branch Secretary**

If you require any further information about the AGM, please email: [unison.mcmh@yahoo.com](mailto:unison.mcmh@yahoo.com) – please specify AGM in the subject line

**All the AGM documents will be on the Branch website: [www.mcmh.org.uk](http://www.mcmh.org.uk)**