Locality Plan – Community Views – engagement event (21st September 2017)

Neighbourhoods (Dianne David, facilitator & Shauna Pearson, scriber)

Engagement event participants said:

- Rochdale is demographically diverse and all the work undertaken needs to be sensitive to this.

- They felt that the needs of groups of people at high risk of developing health conditions were not being met.

Plans need to consider:

- Those delivering the services need to have a solid understanding of cultural differences in the town and the needs of particular groups e.g. Kashmiris.

- Provision of female only services

- Need to consider ways of helping to overcome stigma attached to mental health issues in the south Asian community e.g. Location of mental health services – a clinic would be off-putting and would create barriers to access, but another setting might not. Don’t use clinical language to name hubs—they need to be neutral.

Suggestions on ways to engage with people in neighbourhoods:

- Start the conversation in the neighbourhoods themselves.

- Engage at places of worship, although this could pose other problems re cultural beliefs.

- GPs should signpost patients to right services more effectively. Services difficult to navigate at present.

- Is there opportunity to develop outreach hubs in the community?

ENDS