



**national survivor  
user network**



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## Mental Health Strategy: **No Health Without Mental Health**

**Launched 2nd February 2011**

The Government has published the [Mental Health Strategy](#), No Health Without Mental Health, setting out its six key objectives to improve mental health in England and the lives of people with mental health problems.

- More people will have good mental health and fewer people will develop mental health problems
- More people with mental health problems will recover a good quality of life
- More people with mental health problems will have good physical health fewer will die prematurely, and more people with physical ill health will have better mental health
- Fewer people will suffer avoidable harm
- More people will have a positive experience of care and support wherever it takes place
- Fewer people will experience stigma and discrimination



Read a [summary](#) of the launch event and NSUN's [comment](#) to John Pring. You can also tell us what you think via our [opinion poll](#)

### Other responses & reports:

Federation of Disabled People [news](#)  
Centre for Mental Health [response](#)  
National Mental Health Development Unit [briefing](#)  
Mental Health foundation [response](#)  
Mind [briefing](#)  
Guardian Society [article](#)  
Guardian Money [article](#)  
Community Care [article](#)  
Citizens Advice [response](#)

## Survivor Resistance Network

Survivors Resistance Network demands an end to Work Capability Assessment (WCA) and have prepared a statement with their concerns and demands.

You can read the full statement on the Launchpad [website](#) and on the People's Republic of Southwark [site](#).



## Disability News Service

Disability News Service is run by John Pring, an experienced journalist who has been reporting on disability issues for more than 15 years.

The news service focuses on issues such as discrimination, equality, independent living, poverty and human rights.

It supplies at least 20 disability-related news stories every month to subscribers, often more than 30. To see examples of the stories covered since the service was launched in April 2009, please use the website's searchable [archive](#). The archive includes all of the stories produced by the service except for those from the last three months.

Visit the [website](#) or [email](#) John Pring for more information



## Opportunity: [Representatives wanted in Ashford, Dover & Deal](#)

Do you live in Ashford, Dover or Deal ?

Do you want to gain work experience?

Do you have experience of Mental Health Difficulties?

Interested in representing your local forum at meetings and on committees?

Like to learn to speak up about issues close to your heart in the Mental Health System?

Then we have a place for you as a Service User Representative sitting on Locality Planning and Monitoring Groups, Council of East Kent Service User Forum, Joint Commissioning Board and other key meetings where we have requests for Representatives to attend.

You will be introduced to the role gradually and will have the opportunity to shadow a worker before you take on the role to see if you like it first. Your travel and lunch expenses will be met and you will gain skills in speaking up in groups and other relevant meetings.

We also welcome Volunteers to take minutes at local meetings; facilitate groups and run campaigns to fight the stigma of Mental Health difficulties.

If you are interested in this role we have a number of openings vacant in Dover, Deal and Ashford and would like to hear from you.

To apply contact Maggie Gallant or Amanda Godley at [East Kent User Forum](#) on **01843 230 726**.

East Kent User Forum

### Competition: Re-fill, re-use, re-cycle charity

Douwe Egberts UK is running a competition to give small charities the chance to win £10k for a project that benefits their local community. Second and third place prizes of £5k and £3k will also be awarded. Any cause that has a registered UK charity number and an annual turnover of between £5,000 and £50,000 can enter the competition. When entering you will be asked to outline a specific project for which you intend to use the winning donation.

This project should fit within the three categories (re-use, re-fill and re-cycle) as outlined below.

The three different entry categories:

- Re-fill is about replenishing a project low on funding so you can continue your good work.
- Re-use is about restoring facilities that are falling into disrepair or which are needed for a different use
- Re-cycle is about transforming something old and unusable into something useful, like turning wasteland into allotments.

This competition opens on Monday 7th February.

To enter, simply go to Douwe Egberts [Facebook page](#) on or after the 7th February, click 'like' and follow the Facebook application through to the entry page. Once here, follow the step-by-step entry process. Full T&Cs and entry criteria can be found on the Facebook page. Please note that your charity will be reviewed after you have registered with the application to ensure it meets the full eligibility criteria.

You must have a Facebook account in order to enter. If you need to create one you can do that by going to [Facebook](#) and following the instructions on screen.

Once you have entered you will receive a campaign support kit, which includes a template letter, press release, A4 poster, A5 poster and some useful tips on drumming up support and ultimately boosting the public votes for your entry in your local area.

If you have any further questions about the campaign or require additional media relations support, please do not hesitate to contact the team on **020 7554 4496** or [email](#), where someone will get back to you within two working days (Monday to Friday, 9-5pm).



### Award: The Afiya Awards 2011

The Afiya Awards 2011 event that takes place on Thursday 31 March.

The Afiya Awards aims to act as a catalyst to encourage the next generation of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) leaders in health and social care. They will also recognise the achievements of academics, clinicians, social care staff, the voluntary and community sector, service users and carers who have played an important part in the creation and development of the NHS and social care over the last 50 years.

The closing date for nominations is **Friday 18 February 2011**

For more information visit the [Afiya website](#)



## Consultation: Disability Living Allowance reform

The government has launched a consultation on its proposals to reform Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for working age disabled people. Government plans to replace DLA with Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and is using the consultation to seek disabled people and their organisations' views on the proposal. The Personal Independence Payment will continue to be a non-means tested, extra costs benefit. The plan is to introduce PIP in 2013/14, at which point DLA will disappear.

For more on how to respond to the consultation visit the Department for Work and Pensions website [here](#).

The consultation closes on **February 14th 2011**.

Welfare Reform Act [summary](#) from the Disability Alliance

