



03 January 2012

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## Happy New Year!

Thank you to Andrew Voyce for providing the art work for our first bulletin of 2012. Andrew's latest slide show cartoon is called 'The Durham Light' and is now on his slideshare page and can be reached via this [link](#). Andrew spent his years from age 23 to 40 as a 'revolving door' patient in the old National Health Service asylums in the UK. *'Andrew's slide shows are a brilliant portrait of life on acute psychiatric wards'*.

As 2012 year begins many people will be facing challenging and worrying times. It will be even more important to know how the changes, cuts and reforms are affecting people around the country. We will aim to keep you up to date with what's happening in the mental health world and share local and national news. We'll be continuing with the weekly bulletins so please send us any information that you think would be of interest and of help to other members.

You can read Ed Davie's article about our work in Hackney and readers' comments in the Guardian's Healthcare Network [here](#).

2012  
2011

dreamstime.com

## Reminders

**Mental Health Resistance Network** Judicial Review would like to hear from you if:

- 1) you have you claimed and been turned down for ESA but were successful on appeal when you produced additional medical evidence or
- 2) were you turned down for ESA and did not appeal but reapplied with medical evidence, and were successful.

You can send your stories to: [mentalhealthresistancenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:mentalhealthresistancenetwork@gmail.com)

**Revolving Doors Agency** Job: Director of Service User Involvement

To apply for the role please download the letter and forms from the website [here](#). The deadline for receipt of applications is 10.00am on **Tuesday 10th January 2012**.

If you are shortlisted you will be invited to attend a test centre in London on 31 January and interviews on 1 February 2012. Details of the tests and format for the interview will be sent with the invitation.

#### **News from the North East**

As ever, you can read a lively news round up [here](#) with links to a number of interesting news items.



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### **Department of Health News**

#### **Paul Burstow – next steps for social care reform**

In a video message, Paul Burstow, Minister of State for Care Services, talks about the Caring for our future engagement process. He explains the discussions that took place from 15 September – 2 December and the next steps for social care reform.

To view the video click [here](#).

#### **Social Care Bulletin**

This month's edition has Director General for Social Care, David Behan talking about engagement across the social care system and the National Dementia Strategy.

Read the bulletin [here](#).

#### **Public health reform updates published**

More details of the design of the new public health system, specifically the role and responsibilities of local government in public health, the operating model for the new executive agency Public Health England and an overview of how the whole system will work, were published on 20 December.

Arrange of factsheets covers specific public health system topics and aims to further inform stakeholders and staff involved in the new public health system so that the reforms can be implemented effectively. The factsheets follow the public health white paper 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People' and the policy update 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Update and way forward'.

The factsheets can be accessed [here](#).

