

Using Staff Led conversations to Engage Workplace Leaders and Embrace Diversity

Jess Lievesley,

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer** 

**Austin Omotoso** 

Clinical Nurse leader

Transforming lives together

- Major Mental Health and Learning Disability Charity
- Care for 3000+ service users (inpatient and community)
- 3 Employ 4000+ staff
- We have national & international reach
- 5 £200M annual turnover
- We destigmatise mental health so people can live a life free from stigma and shame







### **Diversity summary**

Disclosure has improved



### Age

There is balanced distribution across the age bands from 21-30 to 51-60. This is favourable when compared to the NHS which has an ageing workforce amongst nurses

-2.8%

**Our Ethnicity Pay Gap** ratio is -2.8%. This means that, on average, our BAME employees receive a higher hourly rate of pay compared to our non-BAME colleagues.

Our results are positive when compared to the 2019 national pay gap of 2.3%.

Female representation at higher levels has increased...



of our Leaders are female



30% of our Charity Executive Committee are female

15%

of Senior Leaders and Leaders have disclosed a disability, favourable to UK benchmark of 10%

of Senior Leadership are BAME



Our Board BAME representation is 15%, up from 7% last year. The national UK average is 1.5%.

Our Gender Pay Gap ratio is 0%. This means that our median male and female hourly rates of pay are exactly the same.

> Our results are significantly lower than the 2019 national gender pay gap (median 17.3% / mean 16.2%), and favourable when compared to NHS, charity and Healthcare organisations.





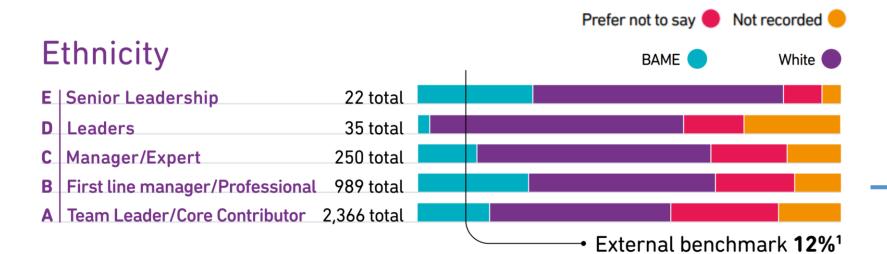
## **Ethnicity breakdown**

20% of our staff are black, asian and minority ethnic

This is favourable compared to national average of 12%

At senior level, our BAME representation is 27%

This is one of the highest in the country





### Workforce diversity – My epiphany 🖓



#### Me

I'm a white middle-aged British man I'm from humble beginnings I became a nursing assistant I became a nurse I'm in a senior management position



Austin is a Nigerian middle-aged man Austin is from humble beginnings Austin became a nursing assistant Austin became a nurse Austin remains a nurse





# >

### It's not enough to be anti-racist

- I'm not racist
- I have always treated everyone equally
- I don't have a bias
- I'm no more qualified to lead than Austin is - I have just had more opportunities presented to me
- BUT.....

- Were my experiences borne of opportunity or privilege?
- Should I be talking to you or should he?
- Do I really understand?
- What could I and our Charity do to help?



## >

### **Embracing diversity - Reverse mentoring**



- Mutual learning
- Listen and hear
- Be curious and expect to change
- Share experiences
- Role model for peers, colleagues, service users
- Remove barriers and challenge practice
- We have one job to do..



## Part of the problem, or part of the solution?

- Representation of white colleagues in senior roles cannot be explained by coincidence alone
- Poverty of opportunity can only be addressed if recognised as 'a thing'
- Reverse mentoring is a great leveller
- Positive colleague engagement



### Part of the problem, or part of the solution?

- Others will look at what you do and copy it
- Your actions individually and as an organisation make a difference
- Promote different thinking
- Challenge perceptions
- Use your leadership role to shape new opportunities



# How can we move forward?

- Colluder / Bystander / Challenger ?
- Giving people permission and a platform to speak their truth
- Reinforcing that their story matters
- Without naming it, we'll never solve it

"We are all part of the solution. In the space we call inclusion – we all must change, we are all different, we are all deeply interlinked"

Cherron Inko-Terriah MBE – The Power of Staff Networks



### **Thank you**



