HSMA Session 3A: Exercise 1

In your peer support groups, discuss some geographic problems in your organisations.

- What does it relate to?

- What are the locations involved?

- Who accesses these locations (the patient/community group)?

- What is the current problem?

- How would you work out what is a good solution?

- What are potential "what-if" scenarios?

You might not be able to answer all of these for every problem - that's ok!

We will be asking you to share some of your examples with the wider group afterwards.

An example

Here's a simple example to get you started.

What does it relate to?
Location of mental health vehicles that pick up/transport patients between wards or their home location and a ward when other transport isn't possible.

What are the locations involved?
A series of wards, but also potentially homes of patients

Who accesses these locations (the patient/community group)?
People requiring inpatient mental healthcare (relatively small group)

What is the current problem?
It costs a lot to bring in private transport - would paying for an additional vehicle be more cost-effective, and if so, where should its home base be?

How would you work out what is a good solution?
Given historical data and different candidate locations, we could work out how many transport requests would this vehicle have been able to deal with depending on where it was placed.

What are potential "what-if" scenarios?
What if we had multiple vehicles?
What if we could move the existing vehicle(s) too?
What if we change the time the vehicles are available?
What if we changed to fewer vehicles that can transport more people at once?