

**Improving Mental Health Services in Haringey Consultation
26 January to 23 March 2009**

Staffing and budget information

In discussions with Haringey Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and at public meetings in the course of the Consultation the Mental Health Trust has been asked to provide detailed budget and staffing information regarding the temporary ward closure and its impact on other services.

Accordingly, we set out here the position regarding the costs of staff who were on the original Finsbury Ward when it closed in October 2008.

The full complement of staff on the ward was a Whole Time Equivalent establishment of nineteen.

Seven of those were transferred to Home Treatment Teams to increase the staffing in the East and West.

Two members of staff were transferred to each of the four remaining adult acute wards so as to improve the clinical effectiveness of the ward environments.

This has provided the capacity to ensure that ward managers are now supernumerary as is appropriate for them to be able to fulfil their function of managing the ward.

This brought the establishment for the four wards to 23 each.

A new Practical Support Team has been created. This is comprised of three staff. The role of the Practical Support Team is wide ranging, encompassing in-patient support regarding housing, benefits, carer responsibilities, financial commitments, difficulties with employment, and identity and residence issues.

An additional admin/clerical post has been created for wards so that nursing staff can be released from administrative duties to spend more therapeutic time with patients.

There are nineteen new posts in total. None of the staff released from the temporarily closed ward have been used to fill vacant posts.

The budgeted cost of the nineteen whole time equivalent staff on Finsbury Ward (before the closure) was £687,500 (plus a non pay budget of £13,500).

The budget released has therefore been reallocated to the areas outlined above.

06.03.2009