

Cllr Gideon Bull
Chair – Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Haringey Council
C/o Overview & Scrutiny Team
River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green
London N22 8HQ

Trust Headquarters
Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust
St Ann's Hospital
St Ann's Road
London N15 3TH

Tel: 020 8442 6598
Email: Fiona.mckeown@beh-mht.nhs.uk

17 July 2009

Dear Cllr Bull

Update on Mental Health Services in Haringey

Thank you for the opportunity to update the Committee on the current developments relating to Mental Health in Haringey.

Acute Wards

Acute services have been successful in being able to treat more female patients in their own homes and currently the demand for female beds has reduced considerably. Throughout May and into June we were consistently operating with two female wards at below capacity which was not a justifiable use of staffing resources. In order to manage this dip in activity we have arranged for female patients be accommodated on Downhills Ward.

Lordship Ward (and its beds) is still available as needed however the temporary dip in demand has opened up the opportunity to reinforce day treatment utilising the inpatient staff whilst still maintaining a full inpatient service. We are now able to use the day space on that ward to provide a much improved Day Therapy service as a positive intervention for in-patients or Home Treatment patients as appropriate. This was a resource which the recent consultation highlighted as much needed, to support some Home Treatment service users. Day Therapy not only provides a schedule of constructive activities and a social context to alleviate isolation, but service users are also provided with a meal there and additional food to take home. From 1 August the Day Therapy service will operate six days a week.

Supporting People and Residential Care

As a mental health trust we are commissioned to provide inpatient care to people in the acute phase of their illness, whilst in hospital their needs are assessed and it often emerges through our discharge planning processes that people require supported forms of accommodation to sustain them in the community. We work with the local authority and NHS Haringey to ensure that our joint planning for discharge and community care (including housing) for mental health service users is tightly managed and coordinated and that high cost institutional local authority/ NHS funded care is only for mental health service users with the very highest level of risk and dependency. There are times when there are blockages in the system and Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOCs), when these occur we need to ensure that the partnership working is well coordinated particularly in the current economic climate with pressures on budgets.

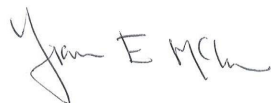
Rehabilitation Services

Rehabilitation services are being provided at Mayfield Unit at St Ann's Hospital, as well as in Orchard Ward, temporarily located at Edgware Community Hospital. Service users in Orchard Ward are being moved back to Mayfield Unit as vacancies occur. Each person is being

individually assessed and those who no longer require hospital support and who would benefit from a community setting are being found more appropriate local residential placements. With more people being treated in the community and the reduced length of stay on inpatient wards the need for inpatient rehabilitation has lessened. As resources are freed in this process we propose to create a community rehabilitation team to bring Haringey services into line with the other boroughs that already benefit from such a service.

The moving of resources should reflect this and will be inline with the overarching three borough mental health commissioning strategy that is currently going through a process of public engagement before being taken to Cabinet. Therefore the Trust would like to return to the Committee in a few months time with a comprehensive proposal regarding the future of intensive rehabilitation services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona E McKeown', written in a cursive style.

Fiona McKeown
Acting Borough Director

CC: Liz Rahim – NHS Haringey
Lisa Redfern – London Borough Haringey