Public Engagement: Modernising and Improving Mental Health Services across Inverclyde

This leaflet provides details of a new strategy to modernise mental health services across Clyde, including Inverclyde, and explains how you can feed back comments on these plans.
Foreword

Around one in four of us will experience mental illness at some point in our lives. When this happens having access to the right treatment and support is vital to help people recover as soon as possible. Fortunately most people with a mental illness can be cared for in the community and only a small number need to be admitted to hospital for treatment. Service users have also told us that, wherever possible, they would prefer to be treated in their own home or in local community facilities.

We recognise, however, that there will always be a need to provide inpatient care for people with severe mental illness. Where possible, we aim to provide these services in modern accommodation which has been designed to meet the specific needs of service users and staff.

There is also a need to provide a range of highly specialist mental health services and it often makes sense to provide these from a single location.

Over the last year, following a major review, we have developed a new strategy to improve mental health services across Clyde, including Inverclyde.

We believe this strategy will result in significant improvements for local service users and their families and we would like to know what you think about these plans.

I therefore hope that you will take time to read this leaflet and feed back comments during this period of public engagement.

Anne Hawkins
Director of the Mental Health Partnership
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Introduction
Over the last year, as part of a wider review of health services across Clyde, we carried out a detailed review of local mental health services.

This gave us the chance to look at the services currently available, identify gaps and explore what needed to be done to further develop and improve local services.

During the review we held a number of local engagement events across Inverclyde to update local community groups and service user representatives and hear what they thought about some of the changes proposed. As a result, a number of our original proposals were amended to reflect feedback from local people. Our revised proposals have also been reviewed by an Independent Scrutiny Panel, set up by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing.

This leaflet highlights why current services need to change, outlines the main developments and improvements planned for Inverclyde and tells you how you can put forward your views.

Public engagement on these plans started on 9th April and ends on 2nd July 2008.

Why do existing services have to change?
The review found that although there are many examples of good quality mental health services in Inverclyde, historically there has been a lack of investment in community-based services. This means that local people who experience mental illness are more likely to be admitted to hospital for treatment, compared to other parts of the country. It also means that people living in Inverclyde are not currently able to access the same range and type of community based mental health services available to people living in Greater Glasgow.

In addition, many local hospital services are currently based in older accommodation which no longer meets the needs of service users and staff.
After completing the review of mental health services, we developed a strategy to improve mental health services across Clyde. An Independent Scrutiny Panel, set up to review a number of our proposed changes to health services across Clyde, concluded that this strategy makes a strong case for change and is very much in line with national policy.

The strategy includes plans to redesign inpatient and specialist mental health services across Clyde. This will free up resources and enable us to invest significant funding to develop local mental health services across Inverclyde.

The plans for Ravenscraig are in line with the approval given by the former NHS Argyll and Clyde to close the hospital following public consultation in 2004. The former Scottish Executive also supported the decision to close the hospital subject to development of more detailed plans which we have now set out in our new strategy.

This includes plans to:

**Develop and expand community-based services by:**

- Introducing a new Inverclyde Community Crisis Services to provide additional intensive support for people with a serious mental illness during evenings and weekends
- Expanding the range of local services available for people with mild to moderate mental illness including ‘talking therapies’ such as Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) which can be offered as an alternative to drug treatment
- Expanding existing Community Based Mental Health Teams across Inverclyde to provide more support to people with serious and long-term mental illness
- Investing in additional supported accommodation, residential care and home care services across Inverclyde to provide more alternatives to hospital care

**Improve inpatient services by:**

- Developing a new South Clyde (Inverclyde and Renfrewshire) adult intensive rehabilitation service, based at Dykebar Hospital, for people with mental illness who have challenging behaviour and require longer-term care and treatment

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Modernising and Improving Mental Health Services

Planned Service Developments and Improvements

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- Transferring the South Clyde Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit (IPCU) from Dykebar Hospital to upgraded accommodation at Inverclyde Royal Hospital
- Replacing the continuing (long term) care services for adults with mental illness currently provided at Ravenscraig Hospital with a range of more modern accommodation and facilities within Inverclyde. This will include a new nine bedded facility with single en-suite bedrooms, which will be run in partnership with another care provider, local supported accommodation and care home facilities.
- Transferring the continuing (long term) care services for frail, older people currently provided at Ravenscraig Hospital to more modern ward accommodation adjacent to Inverclyde Royal Hospital
- Replacing the continuing (long term) care services for older people with mental illness currently provided at Ravenscraig Hospital with a modern 33 bedded facility with single bedrooms, based in Inverclyde. This will be developed with a partner provider.

Redesign specialist services by:

- Developing low secure inpatient mental health services for Clyde, based at Leverndale Hospital
- Making the interim arrangement for providing West of Scotland medium secure inpatient services at Rowanbank Clinic on the Stobhill Hospital site permanent
- Transferring the specialist inpatient addiction beds for Inverclyde and Renfrewshire, currently provided at the Gryffe Unit on the Ravenscraig Hospital site, to Leverndale Hospital to form part of a larger service serving South Clyde and South and West Glasgow
- Transferring the alcohol outpatient services currently provided by the Gryffe Unit on the Ravenscraig Hospital site to a new integrated state-of-the-art alcohol resource centre currently being developed in the centre of Greenock
- Transferring the health drugs team, currently based at Ravenscraig Hospital, to an integrated health and social work team located in a more accessible base with easier access

Benefits

Collectively these developments will increase the range of mental health services available and ensure these are provided consistently across Greater Glasgow and Clyde. They will also provide more local alternatives to hospital admission, which means, over time, we will be able to reduce the number of inpatient mental health beds across Inverclyde while still meeting local demand. This will free up funding to invest in much needed local community services.
Tell us what you think

Public engagement on these plans was launched on Wednesday 9th April and a copy of the full mental health strategy for Clyde and additional background information can be obtained from our website:

www.nhsggc.org.uk/clydementalhealth

or by calling 0800 027 7246 during normal office hours.

Comments on the strategy are welcome. You can either email your comments to us at:

clydementalhealth@nhsggc.org.uk

or write to:

John Hamilton, Head of Board Administration, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Dalian House, 350 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8YZ

Engagement meetings

A number of meetings and events have been organised to discuss the strategy with mental health service user and carer representatives and other key stakeholders across Clyde, including the following engagement event in Inverclyde:

Inverclyde Public Engagement Event

Wednesday 14th May, Tontine Hotel (Adam Room), Union Street, Greenock

6-8pm

If you would like to attend this event it would be helpful if you could register in advance by calling 0800 027 7246 during normal office hours. Additional events will take place in Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire to discuss specific proposals within the strategy which involve major changes to mental health services in these areas and are therefore subject to formal public consultation.

If you would like this information in a different language or format (e.g. large print or audio cassette) please call 0141 201 4915 or email: perl@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Public engagement on the strategy will end on Wednesday 2nd July 2008.
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