Public Consultation: Modernising and Improving Mental Health Services across Renfrewshire

This leaflet provides details of proposed changes to mental health services across Renfrewshire and explains how you can make your views known.
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 Renfrewshire.

This includes a number of significant service changes which we now wish to publicly consult on.

We believe these changes 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 take part in the public consultation.

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 Renfrewshire 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 explains why current services need to change, highlights the main proposals we are now consulting on, outlines some of the wider service developments and tells you how you can put forward your views.

The public consultation 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 Renfrewshire, 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 Renfrewshire 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.
The proposed way forward

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. However they also asked us to carry out further detailed work.

After completing this work, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde agreed plans to consult on the following proposals:

- Transfer continuing (long term) care services for older people currently provided on the Dykebar Hospital site to more modern accommodation. This would improve the quality of life by providing modern, single room accommodation. The facility would be run in partnership with an established provider of elderly care services with patients remaining the responsibility of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

- Transfer adult mental health acute admission beds from the Royal Alexandra Hospital to existing modern, purpose-built accommodation at Dykebar Hospital. This would bring inpatient adult mental health services for the Renfrewshire Council area together on one site and provide single bedrooms with en-suite facilities which offer far greater privacy, dignity and respect.

- Replace a significant number of adult mental health continuing (long term) care services at Dykebar Hospital with a range of local services which offer alternatives to long-term hospital care. These include local supported accommodation and care home facilities. The remaining adult mental health continuing care beds for Renfrewshire would be transferred to upgraded ward accommodation within the Dykebar Hospital site.

- Transfer specialist low secure learning disability beds from Dykebar Hospital to Leverndale Hospital. This would bring services for Greater Glasgow and Clyde together on a single site. It would also ensure service users have access to a wider range of health professionals, avoid duplication and make it easier to attract and retain specialist staff.

The proposals would ensure inpatient services are provided in more modern accommodation, better suited to the needs of local patients and staff.
Wider service developments

In addition to the proposals which we are publicly consulting on, we have developed a wider strategy to improve mental health services across Clyde. This strategy will be the subject of further discussion and engagement with relevant service users and stakeholders.

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 and expand community-based services by:**
- Introducing new 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 Renfrewshire 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 Renfrewshire 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
- Transferring the South Clyde Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit (IPCU) from Dykebar Hospital to upgraded accommodation at Inverclyde Royal Hospital
- Ensuring people within East Renfrewshire have access to IPCU and intensive rehabilitation services based at Leverndale Hospital. This will ensure these services are provided alongside adult mental health acute beds for East Renfrewshire which are already based at Leverndale Hospital

**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 Ravenscraig Hospital, to Leverndale Hospital to form part of a larger service serving South Clyde and South and West Glasgow

**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 Renfrewshire while still meeting local demand. This will free up funding to invest in much needed local community services.
Tell us what you think

This consultation was launched by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde on Wednesday 9th April 2008 and a copy of the full consultation paper 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.

The full consultation document and option appraisal report contains more detail on the options assessed for Renfrewshire and set out why, after a detailed review, we have developed the proposals which we are now consulting on.

The consultation document invites comments on the Board's analysis and provides opportunity to challenge our proposals. It also asks for views on the full range of options which we have considered and invites feedback on any other options that have not been considered.

Comments on all aspects of the consultation paper 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

Consultation meetings

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

TUESDAY 13TH MAY
Charleston Centre, Neilston Road, Paisley (5.30 - 7.30pm)

If you would like to attend this event you must register in advance by calling 0800 027 7246 during normal office hours.

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

The consultation will end on Wednesday 2nd July 2008.
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