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Written and designed by NHS Greater Glasgow Communications

Developing and improving

Adult Mental Health Services





Introduction

A number of changes are being made to the way adult mental health services are organised and managed to further improve care for service users and their families. One of the key developments is the creation of a new

Mental Health Partnership that will be responsible for overseeing all adult mental health services across Greater Glasgow.

The Partnership will bring local health and council services together to create new joint health and social work teams and strengthen the existing links between community, hospital and specialist mental health services for adults.

The development of the new Partnership follows an extensive consultation exercise with staff, service users and carers to explore the benefits of joining up local health and social work services. This consultation was carried out in conjunction with the Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health – an independent organisation that works to promote better mental health services.

This leaflet is designed to provide information on this new Partnership, including details of how you can find out more about getting involved in the development of future services.



Why is the new Partnership being created?

Much has been achieved to modernise and improve mental health services for adults at home, in community settings and hospitals across Greater Glasgow. This has included the introduction of new community services, improved community facilities and a major programme to replace older hospital buildings with modern, purpose built in-patient facilities.

At the moment, however, although NHS and council staff work closely together to plan and provide services, they currently work in separate community teams, based in different locations. It is recognised that this can make it difficult for service users and carers to access all of the services, support and information they require.

As part of the wider reorganisation of NHS Greater Glasgow there are therefore plans to create a new Mental Health Partnership.

The Partnership will

- bring together all of the existing health and social care services for adults with mental health problems
- ensure there is a co-ordinated and consistent approach to the planning and delivery of mental health services across Greater Glasgow
- ensure clear and consistent ways of managing and assessing service performance
- provide effective managerial and professional leadership
- provide robust and safe arrangements for the management of mental health services
- help meet the requirements of the new Mental Health Care and Treatment Act 2003 which highlights the importance of effective care and treatment, protecting vulnerable adults and involving service users and carers



What services will the Partnership be responsible for?

Local Services –

These will include existing community mental health teams, primary care mental health teams and local social work mental health teams. Under the new Partnership arrangements, these teams will be brought together to form joint local health and social care mental health teams. Although these local services will be part of the Mental Health Partnership, at a local level, they will be managed within the new Community Health Partnerships (CHPs). These are the new organisations which are being introduced across Scotland to manage a wide range of local health services provided in community based health centres and clinics. These include services provided by district nurses, health visitors and other health professionals such as physiotherapists and dieticians. In some parts of the country, including Glasgow, these new organisations will also be responsible for many local social care services and will therefore be called Community Health and Social Care Partnerships (CHSCPs). Each of the five CHSCPs within Glasgow city will appoint a Head of Mental Health who will be responsible for the day-to-day management of local mental health services within the area covered by the CHSCP. Improved crisis, outreach and extended out-of-hours services will be also developed to further improve the range of support available to service users and their families.

Area Services –

These will include existing inpatient (hospital based services), out-of-hours community psychiatric nursing services and liaison nursing and psychiatric services which provide specialist support to patients in acute hospitals. Under the new Partnership

arrangements three of the CHP Heads of Mental Health will have wider responsibility for managing these services across a number of CHPs. They will work closely with local staff to maintain strong links between community and hospital based services.



Greater Glasgow wide services –

These will include a range of specialist mental health services which are currently available to service users across Greater Glasgow. For example, perinatal mental health services for new mothers and forensic mental health services for the small number of people who may commit an offence due to their mental illness.

Under the new Partnership arrangements these specialist services will continue to be managed on a Greater Glasgow wide basis. Staff providing these services will work closely with area and local mental health managers to ensure service users have access to the full range of services they require.





How will other mental health services be managed?

Mental health services for older people, children and adolescents will be managed in CHPs with strong links to the Mental Health Partnership.

What difference will this new Partnership make to service users?

The Partnership will

- make it easier and quicker for service users to access the health and social care services they require regardless of whether these services are provided by their local NHS Board or council
- improve the links between community-based and hospital-based services to make it easier for service users to access local and specialist services
- ensure service users have access to the full range of services they require, delivered at the right time in the right locations
- improve communication between different health and social work professionals and make it easier for them to work together to improve the care and treatment of adults with mental health difficulties
- improve the health and wellbeing of service users, in partnership with CHPs, by working closely with local housing, leisure and education services and other organisations responsible for training and employment.

How will the new Partnership be developed?

A Project Group is currently taking forward work to develop the new Mental Health Partnership with the aim of having the new arrangements in place by April 2006.

How can I find out more about the development of the new Mental Health Partnership?

A full report on the development of the new Mental Health Partnership is available on the NHS Greater Glasgow website (www.nhsogg.org.uk) – listed under mental health services in the Health in the Community section. Alternatively you can contact Janice Prentice, Planning & Implementation Manager tel: 0141 211 0241 or email: janice.prentice@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk

How can service users and carers get involved in the development of adult mental services?

There are a number of ways in which users and carers can get involved in the development of future adult mental health services.

For further information please contact:

Service Users

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