

# Adult Mental Health Services

HOSP Update

June 2012

## **Background**

Solent NHS Trust was created on 1 April 2011. The Trust provides a range of community and specialist mental health services to over a million people in Southampton, Portsmouth and parts of Hampshire.

The Trust's community teams in Portsmouth provide a core service to adults of working age with severe and enduring mental health problems within an integrated service. This includes Assertive Outreach (AO), In-patient and Day Treatment Services, Mental Health Liaison, Early Intervention for Psychosis and Psychological Therapy Teams. These teams work in partnership with GPs, service users, their informal and paid carers, third sector organisations and any other services that provide assistance to the service user.

In order for the Trust's community mental health services to be able to become responsive and flexible to health needs in the city, new ways of working were required. A need was identified to offer cost effective and recovery orientated services especially in response to services for clients on the 'high need' spectrum. To achieve this, it was agreed, through engagement with staff, patients, commissioners and other key stakeholders, to remodel the service.

The Trust is now working on implementing a new model, which will increase the accessibility as well as the clinical and cost effectiveness of services in the city. The 'Enhanced Gateway' model will focus on movement through the health system to promote recovery, prevention of entry for people who do not need formal mental health services and support for those who are closer to being discharged from the service. The changes are also geared towards helping assess, detect and intervene very early on before a patient's mental health further deteriorates. The aim is to provide an easier to access and comprehensive service under the proposed model, to be implemented from September 2012.

## **The changes, in brief**

- The three existing Community Mental Health Teams will move to become two Recovery Teams, integrating with psychology staff and creating an Intensive Engagement Team
- The two Recovery Teams will cover both the North and South of the City according to the GP catchment areas. The Intensive Engagement Team will cover all GP practices
- The teams will move to the St Mary's Community Health Campus at the end of September, following which the existing bases at Acorn Lodge and Cavendish House will be closed
- Arrangements are being made to secure space in the North of the city to accommodate clinical appointments for service users in that area
- Staff have been assigned to the new team structure and work has started to look at how this will affect service users in terms of their allocated Consultant Psychiatrist and mental health practitioners
- A supportive process will be put in place for service users to manage this period of transition

### ***Planning the changes***

Initial planning started in April 2010 with the setting up of a team to manage the transformation process. Led by the Associate Director of Mental Health services, Matthew Hall, the team comprised mental health service leads, senior clinicians, finance and HR representatives, as well as a commissioner.

Away days were held to engage clinicians, services users, commissioners and GPs in the redesign process. A decision was also made to ensure more GP participation through surveys, which fed into the planning process.

A number of workshops were held over the summer of 2011 where views and suggestions from staff, carers, service users and GPs were gathered. These were then discussed by a Community Operations and Transformation Group, chaired by Don Muvuti, Acting Director, and comprising all the Trust's medical and management leads, as well as co-opted members from key workstreams such as IT, Estates and Finance.

### ***Implementation***

Full implementation of the new model, including the move into new sites and teams, is expected by 26 September 2012. The period between now and June is being used as an opportunity to make any necessary improvements to the operational framework for the Enhanced Gateway Model, before a final operational policy is put in place at the beginning of August.

### ***Engagement events***

Events to explain the pending changes are being held monthly, between April and September, at two venues in Portsmouth. These events are open to the staff, healthcare professionals, service users, carers and anyone with an interest in mental health services provided by Solent NHS Trust. Details are as follows:

**Tuesday 3 April 2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
St James' Hospital  
Synergy Room**

**Thursday 7 June 2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
St James' Hospital  
Synergy Room**

**Wednesday 1 August  
2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
St James' Hospital  
Synergy Room**

**Wednesday 9 May 2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
Oasis the Venue  
Arundel Street**

**Wednesday 4 July  
2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
Oasis the Venue  
Arundel Street**

**Tuesday 4 September  
2012**

**2.30pm – 3.30pm  
Oasis the Venue  
Arundel Street**

*For any questions or for further information regarding the changes outlined in this paper, please contact Alison Thompson Service Improvement Lead, via email [alison.thompson@solent.nhs.uk](mailto:alison.thompson@solent.nhs.uk) or phone 023 9268 3301.*