

HALTON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Update on Implementation of 'Change for the Better'

Successes/Achievements

Assertive Outreach Team - No plans to change this service it will continue to remain at Widnes, Vine Street.

The service has already reached its LDP target of 57 patients.

A Social Worker (0.5wte) needs to be recruited to make this team compliant with the Policy Implementation Guidance.

Early Intervention Service - This service is shared with Warrington. Presently it has 1 Halton staff though the 3 vacant posts have all been matched and identified and will hopefully start in March.

As this is a joint service with Warrington, the Warrington staff are currently supporting the Halton staff with regard to referrals.

I am happy to report that though this service reported nil activity prior to its establishment and has only been available from 18th December 2006, it currently has 12 patients within its service, which has caught up with Warrington who have been going for over a year.

The Halton worker is based at St John's in Widnes. The current rate of referrals would suggest that Halton may indeed come close to meeting its LDP target by March 31st 2007.

Crisis Resolution/Home Treatment - CRHT

The CRHT has expanded since April and now has 14 staff. The service has been operating 24/7 since Monday 12th February 2007 and work is underway to launch this externally to our relevant partners.

A Social Worker has been recruited to the vacant post to ensure PIG compliance and they are expected to take up post in June 2007.

Finally, the Occupational Therapist vacancy will be advertised and recruited to.

Heath Ward – Heath Ward closed on Monday 26th February 2007 with minimal disruption to immediate service users and carers.

There is a protocol for those patients with a functional illness over the age of 65 and this has been adapted and agreed via the Local Delivery team.

Resource & Recovery Centre aka Bridge & Weaver Wards – Work commenced on January 8th 2007 to improve the environments of Bridge & Weaver wards and this work is expected to be completed by March 26th 2007.

These works include the development of a 'vulnerable area' to meet the needs of a specific client group/individual.

Most importantly on completion of this work Bridge & Weaver will become gender specific wards and not locality based.

That is Bridge will become a male ward and Weaver will become a female ward.

The appointments of a Service Manager and Modern Matron within the last 4 weeks to support the Head of Service and the implementation phase of 'Change for the Better'.

Challenges – Key areas still requiring delivery.

Day Hospital Closures. There is a need to improve communication in respect of the day hospital closures of Pine Day Unit and St John's.

At the beginning of February day hospitals contacted every service user who receives either care, treatment or clinic arrangements, a letter was sent informing them of the proposed plans for the day hospitals. Two 'Open Events' were held at Widnes and Runcorn respectively and a total of 91 service users attended both events.

It was agreed that further planned events to keep service users advised of progress would be useful and this will be arranged. Furthermore, a request by service users for an information leaflet on progress at Halton was requested. This too will be facilitated.

The key challenges will be:-

- The transfer of 63 patients on Enhanced CPA to the respective CMHT's of Widnes and Runcorn. This will result in the need for some temporary investment and resource for both teams to accommodate this.
- The CMHT's to run depot clinics to meet the service user population needs in this area.
- The Clozaril resource to plan carefully its services to the borough of Halton given the two distinct communities i.e. Widnes & Runcorn and therefore a split of these would be advised.
- The biggest challenge that lies is within the area of medicines management, which will need carefully considered planning in respect
- of shared care protocols et al. A project manager post at Band 7 has been advertised to lead in this particular piece of work.

- Unfortunately, until this has been achieved it will be necessary to provide certain clinics within the day hospital settings particularly at St John's for the next several months. Again this involves potential resource implications.
- Finally, there is a cross section of service users particularly at Pine Day Unit who access services in a more recreational fashion. It will be necessary to work with our professional partners and stakeholders with regards meeting the need of this particular client group.

Access & Advice - Currently Halton adults has an Access & Advice team that provides a screening service for referrals into the team. Unfortunately this is just one person, however, this team will expand to 5 shortly plus admin support.

A Team Manager has been identified and will take up position in March 2007 and a Criminal Justice Liaison nurse will be part of the team.

They will be housed at the Brooker Centre and again careful consideration is being given to communicating the launch of this service.

Enhanced Day Treatment - This is an area that still needs some attention and enhanced day treatments as indicated in the title will provide day services, psychotherapy etc. for those patients not requiring or who have been through primary care services. This will essentially be managed by Adult services but treatment will be provided by psychologists, CBT therapists and occupational therapists.

Estates An 'Open Event' was held in January. which was attended by service users, carers and staff and feedback was given via the LDT. Essentially the plans for Heath Ward are:-

- Relocation of the Section 136 room
- The relocation of the Crisis Team to Heath Ward on the ground floor to enhance access to the Resource & Recovery wards of Bridge and Weaver.
- Relocation of the Leadership Consultant on Heath ward to support the Crisis Team and the Resource and Recovery wards.
- Relocation of the Modern Matron again on heath ward to support the clinical environment.

Plans are available for consultation regards the first floor of the Brooker Centre which will need to accommodate:-

- Runcorn CMHT
- Access & Advice
- Enhanced Day treatment
- Psychology/Psychotherapy

Availability of a room for non-statutory bodies and the voluntary sector