

24th May 2011

Councillor Sven Rufus HOSC Chair Brighton and Hove City Council King's House Grand Avenue Hove BN3 2SR NHS Brighton and Hove Level Four, Lanchester House Trafalgar Place Brighton BN1 4FU Margaret.cooney@bhcpct.nhs.uk tel: (01273) 574701 fax: (01273) 574737 www.brightonandhove.nhs.uk

Dear Councillor Sven Rufus,

I am writing to update you regarding a project relating to adult mental health accommodation in the City. This project is funded by the Strategic Health Authority (SHA) and being run in partnership between Brighton & Hove City Council and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust under their joint Section 75 partnership arrangements.

The SHA have awarded £85k for this project which will fund for one year:

- 1. Full time Development and Reviewing Officer
- 2. Part time Support Time Recovery Worker
- 3. Increased funding to existing Rent Deposit Scheme
- 4. Incentive scheme for adult residential care providers

The key objectives of this project are two fold. Firstly to review community care funded residential placements for adults who are currently residing both outside of the City and within Brighton & Hove to establish whether they are value for money, providing an appropriate service and identifying those people who are able to return to supported accommodation. There will be dedicated support available to assist those able to return to more independent accommodation, additional monies from a rent deposit scheme and financial incentives for residential providers to work intensively with identified service users for a period of time around activities of daily living and tenancy sustainment skills. Further aftercare will be provided by Sussex Partnership mental health teams in partnership with Adult Social Care.

Secondly this project proposes to develop a service specification for further supported accommodation for users of adult mental health services. It is envisaged that this service will offer a genuine alternative to residential care and be able to accommodate service users with diagnosed functional mental illness, high levels of assessed need and risk and likely dual diagnosis primarily around substance misuse issues. It is proposed that support would be offered by the accommodation provider and specialist flexible mental health care input would be provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Adult Social Care

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would provide services funded by community care following assessed and commissioned via the Section 75 partnership arrangements with Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. It is acknowledged that this work links with the review of the City's dual diagnosis services where a shortage of appropriate accommodation was acknowledged.

The proposed outcomes for this work include:

- A financial saving to the community care budget held by the Council and Sussex Partnership Trust.
- Greater intelligence around future commissioning of residential care provision around length of stay, cost, outcomes and recovery and reablement.
- Reduced length of stays in acute psychiatric hospital due to accommodation difficulties.
- An improvement in the number of people known to secondary mental health services in settled accommodation.
- Improved outcomes for service users including a return to independent living and a return to Brighton & Hove.
- To commission a supported flexible tiered mental health accommodation service.

The project will report to the Mental Health Accommodation Strategy Group chaired by NHS Brighton & Hove and report quarterly to the SHA. It is anticipated that any learning will be shared across Sussex and more widely within the SHA networks.

We will of course keep you updated and will present progress to the Committee as requested.

Yours sincerely

Cc:

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