

Appendix A

Paper for the Brighton and Hove City Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

July 2008

Sussex Partnership NHS Trust - Brighton and Hove Services Update

Teaching and Foundation Trust

Sussex Partnership has now been approved by the Department of Health to become a Teaching Trust as part of Brighton and Sussex Medical School. This will help us to recruit, train and retain excellent staff, many of whom will be nationally and internationally recognised as academic leaders in the mental health, substance misuse and learning disabilities field. Crucially this will also help us provide a high quality service to all residents of Sussex.

At the same time we hope to be approved to become a Foundation NHS Trust from 1 August. This will help us to run an effective and efficient organisation to support first class services. We now have over 9,000 public, service user, carer and staff members. These members have elected governors who form the majority of our Council of Governors. Local statutory, voluntary and private sector bodies have also appointed Governors, including the City Council.

The changes will help to reinforce our efforts to improve services working in partnership across Brighton and Hove. We will continue to have a local focus for delivery as well as drawing on the strengths of working across the whole of Sussex.

First wave 'Expansion' site for Improving Access to Psychological Therapies

Last year, following a national competition, Brighton and Hove was selected as one of 11 national pathfinder sites. This enabled us to reconfigure our community mental health services. Following a 'state of readiness assessment' by the Strategic Health Authority, Brighton and Hove has been selected to be part of the first wave of the full roll out of this national initiative. We will be one of 32 national expansion sites that together will make psychological therapies available to 100,000 people extra each year. Locally we will employ an extra 28 trainees this year rising to an additional 42 staff in total by the end of next year.

Vocational and day services

Mental health and worklessness is a central theme of the Local Area Agreement which is currently being agreed by the City. We know that Brighton

and Hove has above average mental health and substance misuse. We also know that as many as 6,500 people locally are in receipt of incapacity benefit as a result of a mental health issue. There have now been many national studies which demonstrate the social exclusion, stigma and discrimination that people with mental health problems face, especially when it comes to employment. It is excellent news that partners from employment support, such as Job Centre Plus, adult learning and mental health services will be working together to change the current picture. The statutory sector will be supported by a growing number of voluntary and community sector effective schemes operated by, amongst others, Richmond Fellowship, South Down Housing, Care Coops and Mind. Adult social care's self-directed support will be a key mechanism to ensure people are in control of the supports they need to gain and sustain employment.

Personalised accommodation with support

Sussex Partnership will be establishing a small strategic group to look at the provision of accommodation with support for people with mental health problems (excluding dementia) across the City. We will work closely with the Primary Care Trust and the director of Adult Social care and Housing. We have a large number of schemes across the City, many of which are very effective but also many that need refreshing. In particular we need to make sure that self-directed care as an alternative to a more institutional placement becomes the default. This will require changes to current provision. We will be mindful that many people will not want to self-direct at this point in time and that some people have been in supported accommodation for many decades. We will also ensure that services and people who use services are safe and well supported, wherever they might be living.

Mill View and Nevill Hospitals

The developments I discussed with the HOSC last November are now coming to the end of the planning stage. We will be taking two business cases to our Board in October.

The first will be to move our older people's mental health inpatient care from Nevill to Mill View Hospital. Nevill Hospital is not fit for its current purpose. This move will enable us to have a purpose built 12 bedded ward for people with dementia. In addition we will have a ward for older people with functional mental health problems which will also meet the needs of a small number of more frail younger adults.

Secondly we will refurbish much of the rest of Mill View Hospital. Our plan is to have:

- a male psychiatric intensive care ward

- the very small number of female patients who need intensive care will be admitted to the new build at Langley Green, Crawley (up to 2 women at any point in time)
- s136 Place of Safety for admissions via the police instead of people being held in custody
- a recovery ward that will provide intensive rehabilitation for people with the most severe mental health problems, the majority of whom also have substance misuse problems.
- a women only ward
- and, a men only ward

Sussex partnership also plans to build its headquarters on the same site. The Primary Care Trust is hoping to expand the Poly Clinic and develop GP practices on site. All organisations are working together with the City Council to ensure the site infra-structure is in place.

Substance misuse services

We are delighted that the Government has increased the priority given to all the problems associated with alcohol misuse. We look forward to working with the primary care Trust and the City Council to develop new prevention, early intervention and treatment services.

Dr Richard Ford
Executive Director

