



Cheshire West
and Chester

The Cheshire and Wirral Councils' Joint Scrutiny Committee Agenda

Date:	Monday, 10th January, 2011
Time:	2.00 pm
Venue:	Winsford Lifestyle Centre, The Drumber, Winsford CW7 1AD

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. Minutes of Previous meeting (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October.

4. Chief Executive's update

To consider the verbal update report of the Chief Executive of the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

5. Proposed Changes to Mental Health Services in central and eastern Cheshire - Riseley Street Learning Disabilities Health Respite Service, Macclesfield (Pages 9 - 16)

To consider a report on the proposed closure of Riseley Street Respite Service.

For any apologies or requests for further information please contact

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6. **Update on consultation on the proposal to close The Willows Day Services, Macclesfield** (Pages 17 - 20)

To consider a report on the closure of the Willows, Macclesfield.

7. **Public Health strategy**

To receive a presentation by Michele Bering, Nurse Consultant.

8. **Appointment of a co-opted Member** (Pages 21 - 24)

To consider a report of the Cheshire East Borough Solicitor.

9. **Future meeting dates**

To consider future meeting dates for 2011 – 12; proposed dates are set out below:

- 11 July 2011;
- 10 October 2011;
- 23 January 2012;
- 16 April 2012.

All meetings to start at 2.00pm, venues to be confirmed.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **The Cheshire and Wirral Councils' Joint Scrutiny Committee**
held on Monday, 11th October, 2010 at Vauxhall Suite, Ellesmere Port Civic Hall, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0AZ

PRESENT

Councillor D Flude (Chairman)
Councillor P Lott (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors D Beckett, C Andrew, C Beard, A Dawson, J Grimshaw, W Livesley, D Roberts, G Smith, R Thompson, G Watt, B Silvester and J Salter

56 ALSO PRESENT

Councillor C Tomlinson – Cheshire East Council;
Councillor R Wilkins – Wirral Borough Council.

57 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Wirral Councillor A Bridson (substitute - Councillor R Wilkins) and Cheshire East Councillor S Jones (substitute - Councillor C Tomlinson).

58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED: That the following declarations of interest be noted:

- Councillor D Flude, personal interest on the grounds that she was a member of the Alzheimers Society and Cheshire Independent Advocacy; and
- Councillor D Roberts, personal interest on the grounds that her daughter was an employee of the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

59 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 July 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

60 OFFICERS PRESENT

Avril Devaney, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Ros Francke, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Dr R Parhee, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Denise French, Cheshire East Council

61 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE

The Committee considered the Chief Executive's update report on the following items:

- Primrose Avenue – following the consultation period the proposals to close Primrose Avenue Respite Unit had been reconfirmed by the Board of the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) and were to be re-presented to the Cheshire East Learning Disability Management Group on 16 October for reconfirmation. All service users' health respite needs would be reassessed and a needs assessment for carers also undertaken; this process would be done jointly with social care staff. A decision around implementation dates would be taken in November;
- Soss Moss – this former hospital site had now been renamed the Alderley Unit and had planning permission for 45 low secure beds. The CWP Board had confirmed that Dane Ward (a 15 bed low secure service for adult males with mental health needs currently provided from the Millbrook site, Macclesfield Hospital) would transfer to the first building to be constructed which would be a purpose built 15 bed low secure unit. Most patients staying at the unit would be longer term and the environment was more suitable with space for activities and more facilities available. All safeguarding standards had been met. A meeting with local Parish Councils had been held to provide information and answer queries and a further meeting would be held in the new year. It was expected that the unit would be completed by 4 April 2011;
- Medical Director – a jobshare appointment had been made to the post of Medical Director, and Dr Andy Cotgrove and Dr Anushta Sivananthan had been appointed and taken up the post at the beginning of August;
- Annual Report 2009/10 and Annual Plan Summary 2010/13 – this was now available on the website.

RESOLVED: That:

- the update be received;
- a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee on definitions of low secure units, the types of services provided and the service users who access such services;
- a visit be arranged to the Alderley Unit in the new year; and
- a progress report be submitted to the next meeting on the integration of the Assertive Outreach Function into Community Mental Health Teams.

62 28 RISELEY STREET, MACCLESFIELD - DECOMMISSIONING OF LEARNING DISABILITY RESPITE SERVICES

The Committee considered a report on a Level 2 Substantial Development or Variation in Service. The proposal was to decommission learning disability respite services currently delivered at 28 Riseley Street, Macclesfield.

The Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) had notified CWP of a reduction in income and in order to manage this reduction had worked with CWP to evaluate all services commissioned by the PCT and provided by CWP.

All services had been reviewed using the same criteria and, using this prioritisation process, it was proposed that the respite provision at Riseley Street cease to be provided.

There were a range of respite options for people with learning disabilities living in central and eastern Cheshire – residential bed based services provided by CWP at Primrose Avenue, Crewe (due for closure), Crook Lane, Winsford and Riseley Street, Macclesfield. The Council's social care team also provided respite at Warwick Mews, Macclesfield and Queen's Drive, Nantwich. People with learning disabilities were also able to access direct payments to choose their own provision.

The proposed closure of Primrose Avenue had been subject to a consultation process and as part of the overall planning for the changes, had also confirmed eligibility criteria for health respite services provided by CWP. This agreed eligibility criteria and assessment process would be used to review the needs of all existing respite service users starting in September 2010. Respite services provided by CWP in central and eastern Cheshire would then be allocated on the basis of the outcome of this assessment process and the resources available. Transitional arrangements would be put in place to enable a mix of health and social care respite to be provided by CWP for an agreed period of time.

There were a small number of people affected by the closure of Riseley Street and this had enabled personalised consultation and future planning based on their needs, to be done.

A report on this issue had also been submitted to Cheshire East's Council OSC.

During discussion of the item the following points were raised:

- There was concern that there would be no learning disability respite in Cheshire East Borough and whether there would be a detrimental impact on the existing provision at Winsford; in response, Members were advised that outcomes tended to be better if services were accessed in the community, rather than building based, and such services were available. If social care respite was required this would be provided (by other partners such as the Council), it was only health respite that would no longer be available;
- Who would monitor private provision? In response, the Committee was reminded of the role of the Local Involvement Network who had powers to inspect provision through their Enter and View powers. Also the Care Quality Commission's role was to regulate providers and anybody who wished to could provide feedback to them on provision;
- People may have to travel further to access respite and carers/friends would have further to travel to visit their family member. The Committee was advised that as the number of people affected was small any travelling issues on individuals would be picked up through the individual assessment process.

RESOLVED: That the closure of the service at Riseley Street be noted.

The Committee considered a report on the proposed closure of The Willows, Macclesfield.

The Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) had notified CWP of a reduction in income and in order to manage this reduction had worked with CWP to evaluate all services commissioned by the PCT and provided by CWP. All services had been reviewed using the same criteria and, using this prioritisation process, it was proposed that The Willows be closed.

The Willows offered day services to patients already under the Care Programme Approach (CPA) of a Community Mental Health Team (CMHT). The service was provided to up to 115 patients in and around Macclesfield and was not accessed by service users from other areas. The services offered included social skills training, computer literacy and horticulture and the operation of a small print workshop, all of which were offered in conjunction with external agencies. All the services offered were available through other agencies such as the Council and service users would be supported to access these services. Service users had been advised of the potential closure at an early stage to enable them to access courses starting in September if they wished. The building belonged to the Council.

The proposed closure had also been discussed at the Cheshire East Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED: That the proposed closure and alternative arrangements for service users be noted.

64 THE MILLBROOK UNIT, MACCLESFIELD - CONSOLIDATION OF MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT SERVICES

The Committee considered a report regarding the consolidation of mental health inpatient services at the Millbrook Unit, Macclesfield.

A public consultation exercise had been carried out by the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust on behalf of Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust about consolidating Adult and Older People's services from two sites to one in Central and Eastern Cheshire. The results of the consultation exercise suggested broad approval to centralise onto a single site, support for continuing to develop new ways of working which would enable a reduction in inpatient beds and the expansion of community services and making investments to improve the patient environment.

A number of changes were proposed:

- Closure of the mental health inpatient unit at Leighton Hospital and transfer of services to either Millbrook Unit, Macclesfield or Bowmere Hospital, Chester. There would be three acute inpatient wards at Millbrook and adaptations made to Bowmere to accommodate extra services;
- The overall impact on inpatient beds was a reduction of 4; there would be no changes to bed numbers in Wirral during the implementation of the changes;

- CWP remained committed to improving the patient environment in South East Cheshire and the re-provision project team would report on the options for delivering this in March 2011.

RESOLVED: That the update report be noted.

65 QUALITY ACCOUNT - QUARTERLY REPORT

The Committee considered the Quality Quarterly Report which set out progress against each of the quality priorities identified in the Quality Account for 2009/10.

All priorities identified for Patient Safety had been achieved for the first quarter and were on track for the remainder of the year. For patient related performance CWP was performing on track or better when measured against key national priorities apart from in relation to the average length of stay which had increased. All targets for achieving quality improvement and innovation goals were also on course. Targets relating to patient safety and patient experience were also achieved. Members suggested that in future more ambitious targets may be needed and were advised that future targets would be more challenging.

One area of concern was around the average length of stay (measured in days). The aspiration of the Trust was for this average to show a reduction but the actual position showed an increase from 18 days in April to 24 in July. It was important that a service user's care and treatment was in the least restrictive environment possible and the Crisis Resolution Home treatment team facilitated the earliest discharge possible. The average length of stay would be monitored by the Trust's Performance and Compliance Sub Committee.

It was noted that medication errors and certain self harm incidents had increased along with minor injuries; Members were advised that minor injuries meant issues that could be dealt with on site without any need to go to Accident and Emergency. Members requested that more information was included in future on what was meant by medication errors and self harm incidents so it was clear whether there were any significant issues in these areas. It was noted that the Trust's Suicide Prevention Strategy was currently being revised and would be considered at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

66 TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report on the Transforming Community Services programme as set out below:

- In Central and Eastern Cheshire all provider services currently run by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) would transfer to the East Cheshire Hospital Trust, apart from some physiotherapists for the Learning Disability service who were to transfer to the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP);
- In Wirral the provider services of the PCT would transfer to a social enterprise/community trust;
- In Western Cheshire the provider services of the PCT would transfer to CWP.

In each case the main changes related to how the services were be managed and service users should not experience any impact.

The proposals were currently under consideration by the Strategic Health Authority prior to implementation on 1 April 2011.

RESOLVED: that the current position be noted.

67 APPOINTMENT OF A CO-OPTED MEMBER

The Committee considered a report on the appointment of a co-opted Member.

The Committee's Procedure Rules provided for the Committee to "co-opt other appropriate individuals, in a non voting capacity, to the Committee or for the duration of a particular review or scrutiny". The Committee had previously considered co-option and had agreed that further discussions should taken place with officers of CWP, through the mid point meeting, regarding Service User and Carers representation.

The mid point meeting in September discussed the matter and expressed a preference for a service user rather than a carer to take up a co-opted place. CWP would be happy to progress this by contacting the patient members of the Patients and Public Involvement (PPI) Group to seek volunteers interested in taking up a co-opted place. If a number of volunteers came forward, the PPI Task Force would be invited to assess the applications so as to put forward one person to serve as a co-opted member of the Committee together with one named substitute. A co-opted member would not have voting rights. In accordance with the National Code of Conduct for Members, the co-opted member would not be able to be a Member of the CWP Foundation Trust Board. This process could be carried out during autumn with the formal appointment being made at the next meeting on 10 January.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the procedure set out in the report to appoint one non-voting co-opted Member and one named substitute onto the Committee to represent the interests of service users.

68 WHITE PAPER - LIBERATING THE NHS

The Committee considered a report on the key points outlined in the NHS White Paper – Liberating the NHS: Equity and Excellence.

The White Paper contained 4 key themes:

- Patients would be given more information and choice;
- Health outcomes would be improved to among the best in the world;
- Doctors would be empowered to deliver results – by being put in charge of what services best met the needs of local people;
- Unnecessary bureaucracy would be removed, waste cut and the NHS made more efficient.

The White Paper proposed the abolition of Strategic Health Authorities, by 2012, and Primary Care Trusts, by 2013. GP consortia would be introduced to take over responsibility for commissioning most NHS services. A new independent body – the NHS Commissioning Board – would be established to allocate and

account for NHS resources, lead on quality improvements and promote patient involvement and choice. Responsibility for public health would be transferred to local authorities and a new consumer champion would be introduced known as HealthWatch.

RESOLVED: That the update on the NHS White Paper be received.

The meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and concluded at 4.00 pm

Councillor D Flude (Chairman)

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Briefing Paper for Overview and Scrutiny Committees, January 2011

Proposed Changes to Mental Health Services
in Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT area:

1. Update on consultation on Learning Disabilities Health Respite Services at Riseley Street, Macclesfield
2. Proposal for a further stage of consultation to consider the impact of the closure of Riseley Street, Macclesfield on the proposal to close Primrose Avenue, Haslington, Crewe

Proposed Changes to Mental Health Services in central and eastern Cheshire Riseley Street Learning Disabilities Health Respite Service, Macclesfield

Introduction:

This paper provides an update for members of Overview and Scrutiny Committees on the consultation relating to the proposed closure of Learning Disabilities health respite services at Riseley Street in Macclesfield and the potential transfer of service provision for health respite to Crook Lane at Winsford.

Members may already be aware that the proposal to close Riseley Street was discussed by the Boards of both Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) and Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust (The PCT) at their meetings in November.

We have received legal advice recommending us to undertake further consultation before making a final decision. The requirements of this further consultation work are defined in more detail later in this paper.

Members may also be aware that prior to the consultation on services at Riseley Street, a consultation had been carried out on Learning Disabilities health respite services at Primrose Avenue in Haslington.

Although the two consultation processes were originally separate, it has now become necessary to link the two consultations to now consider the impact of the closure of Riseley Street on the proposal to close Primrose Avenue. The reasons for this and the implications of taking this wider view are described in more detail in the report.

The OSC are asked to

- note progress with this consultation and
- support the proposals for a further stage in the consultation process in relation to Learning Disabilities Health Respite Services within the area served by Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT.

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Background to the proposal

Riseley Street

As a result of the financial efficiencies required within the PCT and the prioritisation exercise that was subsequently undertaken in conjunction with CWP, the proposal for learning disability services is to decommission health respite services from Riseley Street, in Macclesfield. (The OSC was briefed about the prioritisation exercise in July and September 2010).

Riseley Street Respite Unit provides up to 6 respite beds to adults with learning disability. Twenty service users are currently in receipt of respite care at Riseley Street. This number has been static for some time and the rate of referral for respite care at Riseley Street had reduced to one per year for the past 3 years. As a result of reduced demand, the occupancy rate for Riseley Street is running at 45%.

Riseley Street does not meet the Care Quality Commission (CQC) required environmental standards, or allow appropriate access for people with physical disabilities to ensure Disability Discrimination Act compliance.

It is proposed that specialist health respite will be provided more appropriately and effectively from the purpose built facilities at Crook Lane in Winsford. Funding has already been withdrawn by CECPCT from CWP in relation to the provision of services from Riseley Street.

In September 2010, Board of Directors' approval was given to proceed to level two consultation which has subsequently been undertaken – the consultation process and outcomes are described in more detail below. The consultation was carried out by CWP on behalf of the PCT.

Primrose Avenue

Prior to the consultation on Riseley Street, a separate consultation process had been carried on LD health respite services at Primrose Avenue in Haslington. This consultation was prompted by CQC inspection findings that indicated the facilities at Primrose Avenue were no longer fit for purpose. As in the case of the Riseley Street consultation, it was proposed that service users from Primrose Avenue would transfer to Crook Lane in Winsford.

The outcome of this consultation was that Primrose Avenue would close during 2010, however a legal challenge from carers of service users at Crook Lane has resulted in delays and Primrose Avenue still does not have a confirmed date for closure.

A further outcome from this consultation was to confirm definitions and eligibility criteria for health respite services along with the recommendation that all users of LD health respite should receive a comprehensive assessment of their needs.

The results of these assessments would inform any decision making regarding access to specialist health respite, or other more appropriate respite provision. This exercise was carried out during November and December 2010. The findings will form part of the proposed further consultation process.

Update on the consultation process

In September 2010, the relevant OSCs supported the view that a level two consultation was required in respect of the proposals for Riseley Street, meaning that the focus of engagement activities would be with people directly affected by any changes (namely people using the services, their carers and immediate support groups).

The following work has been carried out to date with regard to the consultation on Riseley Street:-

- Briefings have been given to staff and staff-side representatives from all of the three LD health respite services within the PCT footprint.
- Presentations were made to the Learning Disability East North and East South Partnership Boards and at the joint Partnership Boards for Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester.
- All service users who access respite care at Riseley Street were consulted on an individual basis where possible to ensure that their views and feelings were heard.
- All Riseley Street carers were sent a letter outlining the proposal to decommission this element of the learning disability health respite service. This letter included;
 - an invitation to a consultation event
 - an opportunity to request a meeting on an individual basis to discuss the proposal and its potential impact
 - a form to provide feedback on the proposals
- All Crook Lane and Primrose Avenue carers were sent a letter that outlined the proposal to decommission the Riseley Street element of the learning disability health respite service. This letter included;
 - an invitation to a consultation event
 - a form to provide feedback on the proposals

Findings of the consultation

All the service users who access respite care at Riseley Street were consulted where possible on an individual basis (there were 9 who were able to give their views)

All Riseley Street carers were also consulted

Service users and carers from Primrose Avenue and Crook Lane were invited to a consultation event on 18 November

Key issues/concerns raised during the consultation regarding the proposal to close Riseley Street include:

- Distance/travel involved in accessing health respite at Winsford instead of Macclesfield
- Loss of familiarity of the staff team and the impact the change may have
- Lack of clarity re eligibility and the need for it to be confirmed as soon as possible
- Availability of respite and emergency access if a reduction in beds were made

As part of the consultation process, carers from the Primrose Avenue and Crook Lane services were asked to give their views on the proposed closure of Riseley Street. A number of carers from Crook Lane are challenging the outcome of the Primrose Avenue consultation, and their response to the Riseley Street consultation reflected the ongoing nature of that challenge and included correspondence from Public Law Solicitors, who are acting on their behalf.

In response to this correspondence the PCT and CWP sought legal advice about how best to proceed. As a result, when the findings of the consultation were presented to the PCT Board in November they were not in a position to give their approval to decommission the LD health respite service at Riseley Street until a number of issues had been addressed. These are set out in the “next steps” section of this document.

Update on health assessments of all users of LD Health Respite services

As per the recommendations from the Primrose Avenue consultation, all service users of LD Health Respite have now received a comprehensive assessment of their health and social care needs. These assessments were carried out by CWP and Social Care staff using a locally agreed set of criteria and letters have been sent to each individual informing them of the outcome of their individual assessment. The outcome for each service user has been determined in accordance with the eligibility criteria as outlined below:

- Service users are eligible for social care respite and do not require any health input
- Service users are eligible for social care respite but will require community health service (e.g. district nursing) input to support them when they receive their respite provision
- Service users continue to be eligible for specialist learning disability health respite and will continue to receive this service from CWP
- Service users whose health needs need to be met through specialist health services e.g. generic nursing home/hospice/Macmillan nursing packages

The outcomes of these assessments in terms of how many people fall into each category are still to be finalised and therefore this information is unsuitable for publication at this stage, however the information will be made available by staff giving briefings at OSC meetings in January.

Based on current information about the number of people who will be eligible for LD health respite, CWP anticipate that the facilities at Crook Lane will have sufficient capacity to provide health respite for all of these individuals whilst retaining a proportion of capacity for future service users etc.

Meetings took place on 13 and 14 December between CWP, the PCT and the two Local Authorities involved to discuss the implications of the completed assessments of service users and to consider what transitional plans should be put in place to affect a smooth transfer of services for those individuals that the Local Authorities will take responsibility for in future.

Next steps in the consultation process

The next steps in the consultation process take into account;

- Feedback received to date from service users and carers
 - Outcomes of health and social care needs assessments
 - Discussions with local authority colleagues as providers of social care respite
 - Legal advice
- a) The final decisions in relation to closure of both Primrose Avenue and Riseley Street effectively fall to the PCT. Before the PCT can take those decisions, a further stage of consultation activity should take place, run by CWP on behalf of the PCT.
- b) This consultation will seek the views of service users and their carers on the likely impact of the closure of Riseley Street in light of the proposed closure of Primrose Avenue, together with the proposed transitional arrangements to be put in place. This is necessary because the original consultation on the plans for Primrose Avenue did not factor in the proposed closure of Riseley Street and the impact of this on service users.
- c) CWP and the PCT will work together to prepare and circulate a consultation document which will include a summary of the results of the health and social care assessments, proposed transitional arrangements and details about the likely impact on health respite of the closure of Riseley Street. The PCT will also complete a further Equality Impact Assessment.
- d) It is expected that the Transition arrangements will include a commitment to developing a transition plan for each person affected by the service changes.
- e) This stage of the consultation should run for a minimum of four weeks and should include opportunities to feedback on the proposed transition arrangements from existing services to the proposed model. This consultation work is planned for January 2011 with a final decision by 31st March 2011.
- f) Once views and feedback from the consultation in b) have been considered, a final recommendation as to the proposal to close Primrose Avenue can be made by CWP and/or the Learning Disabilities Management Group.
- g) Thereafter the PCT should consider this and take the final decision as to the proposed closure of both Primrose Avenue and Riseley Street.

Briefing Paper for Overview and Scrutiny Committees, January 2011

Proposed Changes to Mental Health Services
in Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT area:

Update on consultation on the proposal to close The Willows Day
Services, Macclesfield

**Proposed Changes to Mental Health Services in Central and Eastern Cheshire
Update on consultation on the proposal to close The Willows Day Services, Macclesfield**

The OSC are asked to note the process and outcome of this consultation

Executive summary

This paper provides an update for members of Overview and Scrutiny Committees on the recent Level 2 consultation relating to the proposed closure of mental health day services at the Willows in Macclesfield

Consultation process and outcomes

The proposals for consultation were presented at the West Cheshire OSC, the East Cheshire OSC and the Joint OSC in September 2010 and, following discussion, level 2 consultation was implemented.

Service users had individual meetings and were advised of the proposed changes. The staff from The Willows, involving the service user's care co-coordinators (within the Community Mental Health Teams) discussed and reviewed the service user's care plan in light of potential changes. Staff continue to discuss how these potential changes may affect them and their concerns and issues.

All Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) staff involved in the provision of the day service within the Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust (CECPCT) area were contacted by letter and invited to attend one of five briefing sessions regarding this and other proposed service changes. A briefing for Governors was also delivered.

The General Manager and Clinical Director met with service users and carers in open meetings at The Willows on the 22 and 27 October 2010. The questions that were generated enabled an opportunity to discuss how health versus social care is funded and the differing responsibilities of each service; feedback identified that this has been a helpful clarification.

Service users commented that those who had received the service for a period of time were losing the place where they feel secure and where people know them, some wondered whether they would find an alternative place, some people have been referred into the reablement team.

The feedback and comments received were very positive about The Willows. Service users were very disappointed that under the proposals The Willows would close. All of the service users felt that they benefited from the service which the centre provides, helping them to recover from mental illness.

Some of the comments which service users gave include:

- *"Future Pathways has been essential to my recovery. The care given has been the incentive to keep going to therapy week by week."*
- *"I feel that we are just a number and that you do not care."*
- *"My course has helped me to do be able to voluntary work. Support from the staff has also helped me to stay out of hospital."*
- *"I have found the craft sessions and the wrap course very beneficial and I was hoping to continue with other courses as it has helped me recover from my mental breakdown."*
- *"I feel strongly. To lose The Willows is the worst thing that can happen. We are all just being abandoned."*
- *"I have learnt skills that I have been able to use in the workplace during periods of stability."*
- *"I'm not well enough to use mainstream facilities."*
- *"I think that The Willows provides an environment which is relaxed and not a pressured one. The activities give people meaning and purpose and a place they can express themselves rather than be stifled."*

The service has also had comments from service users who have moved on to other services and would not have done so had these potential changes not been discussed. All service users have been provided with individual support to explore their future needs.

There was also consultation with service users on how staff would work with service users in facilitating access to existing services in mainstream locations. Staff are also currently working with partner organisations to communicate potential changes and to discuss the support they may need to ensure service users can access services.

Whilst service users were positive about the service and clearly concerned about the proposed changes this was considered alongside other factors including that The Willows does not provide a true health service, rather it is providing social care, which duplicates what is already being provided elsewhere.

The costs of the service are high relative to the number of service users who access the Willows bearing in mind that everyone who uses the Willows is also under the care of a Community Mental Health team (CMHT)

The provision of day services is not seen as a part of CWP core business and it is not available in other areas of the Trust. As outlined above all services currently provided in The Willows are available via other mainstream providers.

The feedback from the consultation was considered at CWP's board meeting in November 2010 and a decision was made to inform the PCT Board that they supported the proposal to close the Willows. The Board of CECPCT considered the outcome of the consultation also at its November board and took the decision to proceed with the closure.

Indicative timescales

Now that level 2 consultation has taken place and approval received from the CWP and PCT Boards, it is expected that the service will close in mid January 2011. An implementation plan has been developed and is being implemented. The impact of the changes will be monitored and CMHT staff will continue to support service users to access relevant mainstream services.

Conclusion

Provision of day services is not part of CWP's core business and it is not available in other areas of the Trust. As outlined above all services currently provided in The Willows are available via other mainstream providers. Community Mental Health Teams will continue to support service users to access appropriate mainstream services, and in doing help to support their recovery.

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**The Cheshire and Wirral Councils' Joint Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Meeting: 10 January 2011
Report of: Cheshire East Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Appointment of a Co-opted Member

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines progress concerning the appointment of a non voting co-opted Member, as agreed at the last meeting of the Joint Committee.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That approval be given to the appointment of Mr. Phil Hough (a Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust (CWP) Patient and Public Involvement representative) as a non voting co – opted Member on the Joint Committee.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Joint Committee in October approved the appointment of a non voting co – opted member to the Committee to represent patients' interests, and following a selection process conducted by CWP, it is now possible to bring forward the proposed appointment.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 N/A

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 N/A

**6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change
- Health**

- 6.1 None known.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 None other than as outlined in the report.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 No identified risks at this stage.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The Joint Committee's Procedural Rules provide "that the Committee may choose to co – opt other appropriate individuals, in a non voting capacity, to the Committee or for the duration of a particular review or scrutiny."

10.2 At the meeting on 12 April 2010, the Committee considered the appointment of co – opted Members and resolved (inter alia) that "further discussions take place with officers of CWP through the Mid Point meeting concerning service users and carers representation".

10.3 Accordingly further consideration was given by the Chair and Spokespersons to the possibility of co – opting a patients' representative at the Mid Point meeting on 17 September. At that stage, Members envisaged that the appointment would be of a service user, as opposed to a carer. CWP confirmed that they would be willing to circulate the patients membership of the Foundation Trust, namely the Patients and Public Involvement (PPI) group of members, to establish whether there was any interest from individuals in serving on this Committee. In the event no service users and one carer member (Mr. Phil Hough) applied. Accordingly, the Mid Point meeting with advice from CWP has considered the application, and it is recommended that Mr. Hough should be co – opted to the Joint Committee. Mr. Hough has extensive experience of the NHS and mental health services, is a longstanding carer, and has served on many different CWP groups and committees and with the NHS Confederation. It is understood that Mr. Hough will be present at the Joint Committee's meeting.

10.4 As the National Code of Local Government Conduct applies to co – opted Members, it is not possible for the nominee also to be a Member of the CWP Foundation Trust Board, and the proposed appointment gives rise to no difficulty on this basis.

10.5 The appointment can be made for the remainder of the municipal year, and may be continued when the Joint Committee is reconstituted following the local government elections in May 2011.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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