

Sussex Mental Health Services Application for funding from SHA/ GOSE Housing Programme

Project Aims

Within the 'Transforming Mental Health 2010-2013' strategy for commissioning mental health services in Brighton and Hove are commitments to providing accommodation and support services in a way that promote independence and deliver greater value for money.

As part of the local commissioning strategy for Brighton & Hove one of the key areas identified for improvement is the increased need for settled accommodation with appropriate support for adults of both working age and older people with functional mental health needs currently receiving services under the Care Programme Approach.

There is also a need to strengthen the specific commitment to agree care pathways and improve services for people with complex needs and dual diagnoses.

Additionally there is a commitment to reduce the reliance on residential care both within the city and within East and West Sussex.

Therefore a plan is being developed as a joint initiative between the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Brighton & Hove City Council, NHS Brighton & Hove and third sector partners.

Project Descriptions

A. Independent Housing Initiative, Rent Deposit Scheme, Financial Incentives for residential / nursing providers, Support Time Recovery Worker

The plan is to commission and develop a tiered mental health supported accommodation service for people with complex needs in Brighton & Hove. This will enable improved movement through acute services, residential care, supported tenancies and into independent accommodation for adults with functional mental health needs.

This accommodation initiative will be delivered by partnership working between Brighton & Hove City Council's Adult Social Care and Housing Commissioning Units which includes Supporting People, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Brighton & Hove and voluntary / third sector partners.

This project will redirect money currently spent on supported accommodation and residential / nursing accommodation via Supporting People and the community care

budget respectively to provide accommodation with tiered, flexible support services able to respond to rapidly changing complex need and dual diagnosis.

It is envisaged that the accommodation and key worker support will be provided by a third sector provider. There will be further specialist mental health support provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust with additional community care funded services following assessment against Fair Access to Care Services eligibility criteria.

Whilst the aim of this project is to improve outcomes for service users related to settled accommodation, reduction in loss of tenancies and use of inappropriate temporary accommodation, reduction in hospital admissions and increased opportunities for employment and meaningful activities it is envisaged there will be a financial saving.

It is proposed the accommodation costs of this project will be met by Housing Benefit and the support work will be funded by Supporting People monies. It is envisaged that the specialist mental health input is provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and could be financed by the re-provision of community care money redirected from residential care. This innovative approach would be possible due to the Section 75 arrangements between Brighton & Hove City Council and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Whilst this project is the responsibility of the joint commissioners in Brighton & Hove it is envisaged this role will provide support to this process strategically having detailed clinical knowledge of the current service provision through experience, mapping and data analysis and those people who use services in order to inform local decision making processes.

Rent Deposit Scheme:

Within Brighton & Hove there is a rent deposit scheme in existence jointly funded by Supporting People and the Council's Housing Department. As a result of using this scheme participants receive a six month course in tenancy management. It also provides training for landlords and a matching service for tenants / landlords. To date this service is only offered to people in receipt of Supporting Peoples money but it is proposed to extend this scheme as a pilot for 1 year for people in residential care in order to facilitate a return to supported accommodation. It is envisaged that this will support 10 people to return from residential care over the course of 12 months.

Financial Incentives for residential / nursing providers:

A key role in this process is to review high cost residential placements in East and West Sussex with a view to re-providing these services locally in residential care or supported accommodation via the rent deposit scheme. To facilitate this process it is suggested that a financial incentive is offered to residential providers as a pilot project identified through the reviewing process to enable them to work intensively

with people for a three month period prior to a change in accommodation. It is suggested that this will offer a recovery approach and aim to maximize people's independent living skills. A pilot scheme will inform future plans for the commissioning of adult mental health residential / nursing placements. It would provide helpful intelligence as to the feasibility of splitting accommodation and care costs as an alternative to a single fee relating to assessed needs and recovery focused work. This would potentially allow for longer term financial savings but provide a more personalized service and allow people to have increased choice and control.

Support Time Recovery Worker

The Support Time Recovery Worker would work intensively with the client, their current residential placement, their Recovery and Well Being Teams, future accommodation provider and any third sector / voluntary providers involved in the person's care to support their move from residential care to supported accommodation. This would include both psychosocial and practical support.

Key Tasks

1. To coordinate with key partners and develop a service specification for a tiered mental health supported accommodation service. Included within this the development of a robust quality assurance mechanism.
2. To commission and arrange intensive reviews of all high cost and out of area residential / nursing accommodation. Implement recommendations of the reviewers report based on cost, value for money, length of stay, re-ablement and quality of recovery activities provided.
3. Analyse the data relating to delayed discharges for Brighton & Hove patients from acute psychiatric settings.

This will include:

- Those delayed where accommodation has been a factor in being discharged.
 - Those patients who at the time of admission were NFA or living in temporary accommodation.
 - Those patients discharged to temporary accommodation or NFA.
 - Those patients discharged to residential / nursing placements.
4. For all accommodation categories provide a report on the highest cost placements and make recommendations based on length of stay, value for money, re-ablement and recovery activities provided. This will have a particular focus on out of area placements including quantity, type and length of stay.

5. With reference to the above increase throughput and reduce length of stay from residential care to supported accommodation due to intensive working and incentive scheme for providers.
6. Identify those service users with the most frequent loss of accommodation, most frequent readmissions to in-patients services and the longest stays in temporary accommodation. This role will include arranging multi agency reviews of each service users' circumstances which will generate an individual plan to include involvement from Recovery and Well Being Teams, Community Safety Team, social care agencies, third sector support and accommodation providers. This deliverable reflects one of the top ten high impact changes that NHS Brighton & Hove has identified as a key priority for mental health services.

Project Outcomes

1. That the tiered mental health supported accommodation service is successfully delivered for mental health service users on CPA within Brighton & Hove in collaboration with partners. It is envisaged this will create 15-20 units of supported accommodation within 12 months.
2. A reduction of 10% in delayed transfers of care and length of stay in acute settings because of accommodation issues.
3. Improvement in the number of people on CPA in settled accommodation. This includes the retention of accommodation for service users who may have dual diagnosis, frequent mental health crises, a history of repeated readmissions to acute services with loss of accommodation.
4. Reduction by 10% of residential / nursing placements outside of the City within the project time frame. This includes a reduction in admission to residential / nursing care on discharge from acute settings. This will be evidenced by a reduction in expenditure on the community care budget for residential / nursing placements, increased move on and reduced length of stay in residential care.
5. Evidence of a 10% increase of positive move on and throughput in the supported accommodation pathway in Brighton & Hove. This will be reported via Supporting People within Brighton & Hove.

Funding Bid Details

Development and Reviewing Officer
1 Band 7 FTE -£40,157 April 2011- March 2012

Support Time Recovery Worker

0.5 Band 4 FTE – £14,500 April 2011 – March 2012

Incentive Scheme for Residential Providers:

£15,000 April 2011- March 2012

Rent Deposit Scheme:

£15,000 April 2011-March 2012

The Development and Reviewing Officer and Support Time Recovery Worker would be based within the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and work across integrated services in partnership with Brighton & Hove City Council. Both posts would work to the key tasks and outcomes as above and report to the General Managers in Brighton & Hove for Recovery and Social Care.

Project Leads John Child / Dave Dugan, General Managers

