

HWOSC Briefing

Mental Health Accommodation with Support

1. Purpose

The purpose of this briefing is to update the HWOSC on:

- key findings from the multi-agency mental health accommodation review which was undertaken during 2011 and 2012 and
- plans for service changes/ improvements.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) led a multi-agency review into accommodation with support for adults with functional mental health needs in Brighton and Hove during 2011-12.
- 2.2 The review included an assessment of need, and analysis of demand and capacity including complexity of need, bench-marking of unit prices and analysis of blocks in the system.
- 2.3 The purpose of providing support is to enable individuals to be supported to live independently in the community, rather than in institutional care settings such as hospitals. Wherever possible a move to recovery and independent living in general housing is the goal. The term “supported accommodation” covers a wide range of provision including:
- Housing with 24 hour on-site support staff
 - Housing with day time support and on-call night time support
 - Floating Support – a few hours a week of support is provided to individuals living in independent housing
- 2.4 The type of support provided includes support with personal care, managing money, living independently and diet. Most provision of supported accommodation is through the Community & Voluntary Sector (mainly Housing Associations) with some more limited direct provision by the NHS through Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust.

3. Findings of the review

- 3.1 The key finding of the review was that there was insufficient supply to meet local need and in particular for people with more complex needs such as dual diagnosis¹. Insufficient capacity impacts on the system in a number of ways but in particular it creates “blocks” including:
- Delayed transfers of care at Millview and the Nevill Hospitals’ and subsequent unnecessary usage of acute mental health beds through longer lengths of stay. Insufficient supported accommodation is one of the key reasons why the proposals to close 19 acute mental health beds in Brighton and Hove have not yet been recommended for approval.
 - Dependence on a number of expensive out of area placements.
 - Delays in move on from higher levels of support to more independent living opportunities.

¹ Dual Diagnosis – Both mental health and substance misuse.

- 3.2 The gap between current provision and need was estimated to be 100 units ranging from intensively supported accommodation units staffed 24/7 through to lower levels of support such as floating and tenancy support.
- 3.3 The review also found significant variation in the unit prices for supported accommodation. The key outlier in terms of unit prices were the Recovery Support Houses, 19 units of supported accommodation commissioned jointly by the Housing Department and the CCG and provided by Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust. The service supports those with high and medium support needs and people are accommodated within 4 houses:
- 3 Windlesham road; BN1 3AG
 - 6 Westbourne Gardens; BN3 5PP
 - Stowford Withdean Road; BN1 5BL
 - 39 Osmond Road; BN3 ITD
- 3.4 Whilst it is not always possible to compare like for like in terms of services due to variations in service models, commissioners identified an opportunity to improve value for money. Financial modelling indicated that it would be possible to redesign the resource associated with these 19 units of accommodation to:
- both re-provide the 19 units and
 - commission the additional 100 units required that were identified as part of the review.

4. Plans for Service Change/Improvements

- 4.1 As a result of these findings commissioning plans were developed with the aim of:
- increasing capacity within the city,
 - improving support to those with complex needs,
 - extending opportunities for positive move on
 - ensuring value for money services.
- 4.2 There have been two key plans that have been progressed as a result of the review:

4.3 Additional Investment in Hostel Style Accommodation

Supporting People funding of £175k and Adult Social Care funding of £20k has funded an additional 14 placements at West Pier Hostel. This increased investment has resulted in a total of 25 beds for mental health and enabled a redesign of the West Pier service to strengthen its support for those with some of the most complex needs including dual diagnosis. This type of provision was identified as a key gap as part of the review process. The support is focused on the Service User maintaining & developing coping strategies including support to avoid admission to hospital or to assist at point of discharge from hospital. The service will work with the service user to develop independent living skills with the aim of assisting move on to permanent accommodation in the longer term. The West Pier Hostel has close links with Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust Care Co-ordinating staff in terms of managing mental health issues. Since redesign the service has been operating at near to full capacity.

4.4 Procurement for Additional 100 Units of Accommodation with Support.

The resources associated with the 19 units of accommodation currently provided by SPFT provides an opportunity to release and re-invest resources to enable support to be provided to more people and also to increase the choice of accommodation support available.

- 4.5 A joint CCG/Local Authority procurement programme is underway to utilise the released resource to secure 100 additional units of accommodation with support as well as the re-provision of the 19 units of existing supported accommodation. In total resources will be reinvested to provide approximately 120 units of support. The additional units of support will be for a range of different needs and are detailed in table 1 below and described in more detail in Appendix 1.

Table 1: Types of Supported Accommodation

Description	Number of Units	Contracting Authority
High Support	20	CCG
Medium Support	30	CCG
Floating Support	30	Housing
Tenancy Support	40	Housing
Total	120	

- 4.6 An advert and Pre-Qualification Questionnaire was placed on the South East Business portal on the 31st October 2012. There has been significant interest in the procurement from providers both at a soft market testing event held in September 2012 and through the number of expressions of interest via the SE Business portal. Following PQQ evaluation invitation to tenders will be issued in January 2013. We expect new services to start from September 2013.
- 4.7 Service user involvement is planned throughout the procurement process. A meeting with service users is scheduled for December to enable them to contribute to the development of service specifications for the new services. Service users will also be involved in the evaluation of the tender bids.
- 4.8 Meanwhile we will continue to work closely with SPFT to ensure that the transition to the new service for residents and their carers is smooth and to minimise any service voids during the re-commissioning of services. SPFT have developed and will maintain a needs register for all residents. This will identify an individuals' future accommodation and support needs. Individual action plans and profiles will be developed for each resident to assist transition and discussions with new providers. All new referrals to the service will be aware of the planned changes and the timescales for these. SPFT have scheduled individual time with residents in early December week to discuss the planned changes.

5. Summary

Improving mental health accommodation with support is a key priority for the city. The plans outlined in this report above highlight the way that some of the capacity gaps will be addressed. The procurement process will help to achieve our objective to ensure the provision of high quality, cost effective accommodation solutions which offer choice, positive move on and independent living opportunities, wherever possible.

6. Recommendation

The HWOSC is asked to note plans to improve capacity for mental health accommodation with support.

Appendix 1: Tiered model of mental health accommodation with support

Service	Key Functions
<p>Lot 1 High Support</p> <p>Provides accommodation with support services for people with enduring and complex mental health needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation with provision of intensive support services (approx 20hrs per service user per week). • The service will be a bridge between higher care services e.g. Hospital, residential and forensic services and independent living • Service will provide on site 24/7 support • Service will manage and work with varying levels of risk and deliver personalised programme of support • Delivery of personalised programmes of support will include: support with mental health needs, assistance with medication management, health and well being including addressing substance misuse and lifestyle concerns, risk management, active move on planning and development of independent living skills
<p>Lot 2 Medium Support -</p> <p>Provides accommodation with support services for people with mental health needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation with provision of support services for people with medium support needs (approx 10 hrs per service user per week) • The service is a transitional support service and will be a key step down service from higher support services (intensive supported housing) providing a higher level of care than floating and tenancy support • Support will be provided on site • Delivery of personalised programmes of support to include: support with mental health needs, assistance with medication management, health and well being including addressing substance misuse and lifestyle concerns, risk management, active move on planning and development of independent living skills
<p>Lot 3 Floating Support</p> <p>Delivers community support to those living in independent accommodation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support focuses on continued recovery, maintaining independence, support to prevent crisis and maintaining independent accommodation • May form key component of an individuals care plan
<p>Lot 4 Tenancy Support</p> <p>Provide support to access long term independent accommodation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support focuses on building independent living skills and tenancy management skills • Delivered via individual and group work • Service will work proactively with landlords to support relationships with tenants.

