

Agenda Item 53

Briefing note to Brighton & Hove Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding Joint Older People's Mental Health Commissioning Strategy

Background

About 5% of the population over 65 has dementia and, at any one time, about 10-15% of the population over 65 will have depression. To ensure that service users, patients and carers have access to integrated services, effective diagnosis, treatment and support, Brighton and Hove City Council and Brighton and Hove City Primary Care Trust currently jointly commission health and social care services for this group of people.

Overview of strategy delivery plans

The existing Older People's Mental Health (OPMH) commissioning strategy, 2005 – 2008, is now due for a refresh. See appendix 1 for executive summary of existing strategy. The refresh will review the current strategy's content as much of it is still relevant, and will set out recommendations based on relevant local and national policy developments. The aim is to have the refreshed strategy agreed by March 2009, with a view to full implementation in 2009/10 onwards.

The Steering Group, made up of stakeholder representatives from Sussex Partnership Trust, the Alzheimer's Society, MIND, Independent Provider Forum, the Local Authority and the Primary Care Trust has met to shape the priority areas for the refreshed commissioning strategy, and these will be used in conjunction with policy developments to set out commissioning intentions for the future. Please see appendix 2 for priorities.

Consultation Plans

Consultation with all stakeholders across the local health economy and with service users/carers is fundamental to successfully delivering the strategy. The following is proposed for the consultation process:

Stage 1

- Briefing note to be sent to HOSC and LINKs. If requested by either group, representatives to attend HOSC and LINKs meetings to answer questions on plans for strategy development.
- Briefing note, along with agreed priority areas, to be sent to Pensioner's Forum, Older People's Council, Health User Bank members and the PCTs gateway organisations. Groups will be offered opportunity to nominate two to three relevant individuals to attend a small group/meeting. They will be asked for comments and suggestions for possible future service developments, based on the priority areas. The feedback will inform the development of the first draft of the strategy. Alternatively, if preferred, these groups could provide a response on paper, to be incorporated in the first draft. If requested by the groups, these meetings will take place as soon as possible, to fit in with the tight timeframe for strategy delivery
- Input to the initial draft from Local Authority, PCT and provider representatives, will be given at the regular Working Group meetings.

Stage 2

- The first draft of the strategy should be complete by mid to late October 2008.

- Once complete, it will be sent to all members of the Steering and Working groups, giving a three week period to provide comments on the content and recommendations it puts forward. Feedback can be incorporated in the final draft.
- Service user/carer focus groups (one day time and one evening session) will be set up in the three week consultation period, between late October to early November. Attendees will have the opportunity to comment on the content of the first draft of the strategy, and highlight key issues.

Stage 3

- The final draft of the strategy will be discussed and agreed by the PCT Board, the Joint Commissioning Board and the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet meeting.
- Once the strategy is finalised, work will begin on the agreed service development areas. Working groups will be convened to take this work forward. The groups will include representatives from across the LHE and from relevant service user/carers organisations.

Kathy Caley
OPMH Commissioner
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