

The Assessment and Treatment Service

Background

We are reorganising some of Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust's community mental health services. The Recovery Service and the Older People's Mental Health Community Service will be a new Assessment and Treatment Service for Brighton and Hove. This is a secondary mental health service which means that we assess and support people who have more complex needs than can be supported by their GP or the Wellbeing Service alone. The trust will deliver the service in the city from two hubs:

- The Mill View/Poly Clinic building in Hove;
- The East Brighton mental health centre.

For new people referred to the service we will see you within five days if you have priority needs, or 28 days as standard. If you need to be seen by a mental health worker urgently we will see you within four hours. If you have previously received a service from Recovery or Older People's community teams in the recent past we will see you again within seven days if your GP thinks you need the service again.

The service has a range of mental health professionals working in both hubs including psychiatrists, mental health nurses, occupational therapists, social workers, psychologists and support time recovery workers.

If you are receiving treatment from a doctor, or having sessions with a psychologist for example, they will be called your lead professional. If you have more complex needs you may need a care coordinator to help support you and plan your service with you. They will help you create a CPA care plan.

The service will be ageless meaning that we will work with adults over 18 with no upper age limit.

Currently we are moving staff across to be based in the two sites and will be finished doing this by early 2013.

What will happen to Buckingham Road?

The trust has several services at 79 Buckingham Road. One of these is the day services and these will be closing by April 2013 and transferring to new locations. Further details provided in the day services update.

The recovery team will also move from Buckingham Rd and the staff will become part of the Assessment and Treatment Service. People who have a care coordinator at Central Recovery may get a different worker, or you may keep the same one. Your current care coordinator will be meeting with you to explain how this affects you and if you are changing your worker they will ensure that you have a meeting with them to handover.

If you see a doctor at Central Recovery your appointment may move to a different doctor and we will write to you to explain who this is and where your appointments will be. Everyone should know how the changes affect them by the end of December.

From April 2013 the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust will not be delivering any service from the Buckingham Rd building and will hand this building back to the council.

Who owns and reviews my care plan?

Everyone who receives a service from the Assessment and Treatment Service will have a care plan. Some plans may be very simple and describe the treatment service you are receiving and state where you have other supports and what to do if you have a crisis. Other plans may include a care plan as part of the Care Programme Approach (CPA). These will also describe the roles of other professionals, and agencies, which are part of your overall care and treatment.

Plans may also be self directed and reflect the recovery planning/relapse work that you are doing.

We will review the plan with you and your carer at least every 6 months or sooner if things change or you request it.

How can communication between services be improved?

We are always vigilant about needing to communicate clearly what our services do, and also when people are moving between services it is important to ensure that professionals have passed on all the information to others needed to provide a good quality and safe service.

We expect that the Assessment and Treatment Service will have fewer barriers for service users. For example, we will no longer pass someone to another service because they have reached the age limit for one service. We value feedback and suggestions where you feel we can improve our communication.