

Nottinghamshire HealthCare Trust

Preliminary Report to the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

1. Introduction

This is a preliminary report to inform the Joint Committee that the Adult Mental Health Directorate of the Nottinghamshire HealthCare Trust will be presenting its Service and Finance Strategy to the October Meeting. Officers of the committee have asked that discussion on the detail of the strategy is programmed to this timetable, to allow the September meeting of the Committee to focus on issues in the acute and elderly services.

2. Content of the Strategy

The Strategy will outline plans to streamline and refine services following the significant growth period associated with the National Service Framework for Mental Health Services and the NHS plan. It will outline proposals to:

- Develop a new Social Inclusion and Well-being model, including Vocational Services in Greater Nottingham, based on the latest research evidence on effective practice, which will entail a change from our existing buildings-based, direct provision model.
- Rationalise bed numbers at the Millbrook site as a pilot for 1 year, to reflect current demand for beds following the introduction of increased levels of home treatment through the new home treatment teams
- Reorganise the Community Mental Teams in the conurbation along the lines of the functions of Primary Care Liaison, Rehabilitation and Recovery, and Assertive Outreach, in order to fulfil NSF requirements. These services are integrated across health and social care and the proposals have been jointly prepared by the Trust and Social Services departments.
- Realise the Benefits of the new NHS pay structures, ensuring that the skill-mix is appropriate to the services that need to be provided.

The proposals in total will result in a reduction in costs, but are focussed on reducing the numbers of separate management units, and thus not affecting levels of clinical activity.

3. Process

The Strategy will be presented to the Trust Board in its September meeting. This will be followed by a period of consultation specifically in relation to the development of the new approach to vocational services for Greater Nottingham. The current plan is to implement these changes during December and January. Discussions with staff-side organisations are on-going, and these will continue throughout the consultation and implementation periods. Discussions are also planned with the Local Implementation Teams, the City Core Commissioning Group, and through the formal PCT commissioning structures.

4. Recommendations

The Joint Committee is asked to note the contents of this paper and to agree to consider the full strategy to the October meeting.