

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE – 19TH
NOVEMBER 2009**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ADULT, COMMUNITY AND HOUSING SERVICES

MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP IN DUDLEY

Purpose of Report

1. The report provides an update to Select Committee on the joint partnership arrangements between Dudley MBC, Dudley PCT and the Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (D&WMHPT). The report includes:
 - A progress report on the first year of operation of the Mental Health Trust.
 - An update on development of a new Mental Health Strategy for Dudley.
 - Proposals to take forward a Mental Health Commissioning Executive.
 - Information about the Clinical and Social Care Vision of the Mental Health Trust

Background

New Horizons- Towards a shared vision for mental health (2009).

2. New Horizons is a consultation document which sets out the next stage of the Government's strategy for improving Mental Health in England. The consultation process has recently ended. It takes a cross Government approach and aims to:
 - take forward what was learnt in the lifetime of the National Service Framework (NSF) 1999-2009 about what works, and broaden the scope to include all groups in society, including children and young people and older people
 - build on the principles and values set out in the NHS Next Stage Review (the Darzi report) and its vision of local commissioners working with providers, the public and service users to devise local approaches to Mental Health care
 - use the growing understanding of the wider determinants and social consequences of mental health problems and mental well-being to influence priorities in other parts of central and local government
 - reinforce commitment to key mental health policy aims, including delivering race equality and improving access to psychological therapies.

Mental Health Services in Dudley

3. Mental Health Services in Dudley are commissioned jointly by Dudley PCT and Dudley MBC.
4. The main provider of Mental Health Services is the Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust which was established on 1st October 2008. Previously, the Services were delivered by an integrated service based in the PCT. Since April 2005, 75 Dudley MBC social care staff have been seconded to work in the local NHS.

Mental Health Strategy

5. In 2005, the Council and the two PCTs in Dudley agreed a five-year Strategy for Mental Health. A new draft Joint Commissioning Strategy has recently been developed through the Dudley Mental Health Partnership Board - working together with people with mental health needs, carers and providers of services in Dudley and will go out to public consultation shortly. The draft Strategy is attached to this report at Appendix A.
6. A stakeholder event will be held on 23rd November to discuss the draft Mental Health strategy. The consultation period will end on 14th February 2010.
7. The priorities for Mental Health set out in the draft Joint Commissioning Strategy are:-
 - to support improved access to early intervention in primary care including psychological therapies.
 - to work with providers to identify local alternatives which enable people with complex mental health needs currently being cared for a long way from home to return closer to their home and family.
 - to assess the contribution and opportunity to use direct payments and personal budgets to enable people to have more control and choice over their care.
 - to challenge stigma and discrimination towards people with mental health needs and promote inclusion and independence.
8. The draft Strategy is consistent with the strategies for children and young people, dementia, older people with mental health, and substance misuse. It has also been developed in line with strategies covering Supporting People, Housing, Leisure and Regeneration. The Strategy also takes account of the local Joint Health and Social Care Commissioning Framework and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

Commissioning Arrangements

9. The Joint Commissioning Strategy for Mental Health sets out the commissioning intentions of Dudley Council and Dudley PCT in respect of specialist services for people with mental health.
10. Increasingly, Dudley PCT is looking to commission services from the D&WMHPT jointly with Walsall PCT. A joint Mental Health Commissioning Executive has recently been established on which both Councils are represented. Collaborative

commissioning of more specialist services is undertaken by Black Country Commissioning.

11. D&WMHPT is monitored by the PCT through monthly contract meetings and quarterly quality meetings and use of the new national Mental Health contract.

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust

Overview

12. Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust ('the Trust') was established on 1st October 2008 from the joining together of the two mental health 'provider arms' of Dudley PCT and NHS Walsall. The development of the Trust followed a full public consultation about the proposals and was supported by the Joint Scrutiny Committee of Dudley and Walsall MBCs which was formed specifically for this purpose.
13. The Trust has a budget of around £68 million and employs approximately 1200 staff. It is in the process of finalising Section 75 Partnership arrangements covering the provision of mental health services with Dudley and Walsall Councils, which will formalise the secondment of mental health social care staff to the Trust.

Performance

14. The Trust is now subject to external assessment and scrutiny as a separate legal entity and was assessed for the half-year period 2008/09 for the first time. The primary assessment for NHS bodies – the Care Quality Commission's 'Annual Health Check' – evaluates the quality of services and use of resources.
15. The former part of the assessment is based upon the organisation's compliance with the 'Standards for Better Health' framework; a wide-ranging set of standards covering all aspects of clinical services. In line with the national process, the Trust made a self-declaration against these standards in May and both Dudley and Walsall Health Scrutiny Committees were invited to make a statement covering their own views of the Trust's performance.
16. The 'use of resources' component of the assessment is based on the 'Auditor's Local Evaluation' (ALE) which considers all elements of the Trust's financial governance arrangements.
17. The results of the Annual Health Check were announced in October. The Trust w received ratings of 'fair' for quality of services and 'fair' for use of resources.

Foundation Trust Plans

18. In line with Department of Health policy, the Trust is planning to pursue Foundation Trust (FT) status and to have received Secretary of State approval to become an FT by December 2010. The achievement of FT status will enable the Trust to attain its longer term strategic ambitions, strengthen relationships with partners and accountability to stakeholders, improve the quality and range of services available to people in Dudley and Walsall and ensure the very best use of resources.

19. Reflecting an FT model of corporate governance, the Trust will have a Board of Directors and a Council of Governors. The Council of Governors will be a combination of 'Appointed Governors' from partner agencies and 'Elected Governors' from the various constituencies of membership. A full consultation about FT status will be undertaken during early 2010.

Setting the Vision

20. Soon after the establishment of the new Trust, the Board made clear their commitment to set a strategic direction based upon the improvement of mental health services within the two Boroughs. The first stage of this process was a series of 'Here and Now Reviews' – structured internal evaluations covering all services provided by the Trust. These reviews were then distilled into service improvement plans which addressed immediate issues arising as a result of the reviews.

21. The Trust held a stakeholder event in March 2009 – 'Better Together, Moving Forward' – which brought together partners, staff, service users, carers, commissioners, voluntary groups and other stakeholders from across both boroughs. The aim of the event was to seek feedback on services provided by the Trust, listen to ideas about how to improve services and discuss plans for moving forward.

22. The Trust has used the outcomes of this process to draft the 'Clinical and Social Care Strategic Vision' – a five year strategy which aims to describe, clarify and extend the range of services provided by the Trust. The draft of the Clinical and Strategic Vision is appended to this report (Appendix B).

23. The Council and the PCT have responded to the Clinical and Social Care Vision. Some of the issues we are working through with the Trust are as follows:

- Access to Mental Health Services, including those services delivered in Primary Care
- Role function and staffing of Community Mental Health teams and Assertive Outreach team
- Services for patients with learning disabilities and mental health needs
- Services for people with autistic spectrum conditions
- Criminal Justice services
- The provision of domestic abuse services which is currently subject of a review by DMBC's Community Safety team
- Commissioning of homelessness services, in conjunction with the Supporting People programme
- Review of day services in the context of personal budgets
- Support to carers

Finance

24. The Council's investment in Mental Health Services in 2009-2010 is £6.3M

Law

25. The Mental Health Act 1983 amended by the Mental Health Act 2007 is the primary legislation relating to provision of Mental Health Services.

Equality Impact

26. Full equality impact assessments will be undertaken for all proposals put forward by the Trust for developments to services.

Recommendation

27. It is recommended that:

- Select Committee note the progress in the development of the Trust to date.
- Select Committee comment on the new draft Mental Health Strategy for Dudley.
- Select Committee note the proposals to take forward a Mental Health Commissioning Executive.
- The Committee note and support the overall strategic direction for commissioning developed by the Council and the PCT as described in the draft Mental Health Strategy, and the detailed plans for development of Mental Health Services as outlined by the Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust in their Clinical and Social Care Vision.



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List of Background Papers

Draft Mental Health Strategy
Draft Clinical and Social Care Vision.