
Report to

31st May 2005

Cabinet Member (Community Services)

**Report of
Director of Social Services and Housing**

Title

CONSULTATION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY FOR OLDER PEOPLE

1 Purpose of the Report

To report on the discussion with Coventry Primary Care Trust (PCT) regarding the development of a joint Mental Health Strategy for Older People, and to seek approval from the Cabinet Member (Community Services) to consult regarding the proposed strategy and agreement of a joint implementation programme.

2 Recommendations

The Cabinet Member (Community Services) is recommended to:

- 2.1 Approve a three-month consultation process with people working with the older people's mental health service, in the PCT and Social Services, users and carers, voluntary sector and independent care providers in the city. The purpose of the consultation will be to seek the views and support to develop a more formal agreement and joint services with the PCT for older people's mental health service(s).

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Significant work has been undertaken to develop a joint approach to mental health services for older people, working with the PCT and Social Services department. This work started in Summer 2004 and has been supported through three working groups looking at the links, quality and service specification of the current services and plans to develop a more integrated joint service. There has been a specific group looking at carers' needs led by a voluntary sector organisation.

The development of a joint strategy for this client group was identified as a key priority by the Older People's Partnership in March 2004. A draft strategy has now been developed, through the work of the three working groups and a number of specific stakeholder workshops.

- 3.2 Values and Vision for the service have been developed:

3.2.1 The Values that underpin the service are:

- Older people with mental health needs should be supported to be members of their communities and family and to maintain their relationships with their partners and friends for as long as they wish
- The City Council and NHS are committed to working in partnership together, with the voluntary and independent sector and with service users and carers to plan and deliver services

3.2.2 The Vision for the joint services is:

- Promoting independence and improving the lives of people who need our services, through developing services to meet this goal rather than organisational convenience
- Providing good access to Primary Care services
- Providing timely access to specialist services
- Providing responsive planned and timely access to emergency services
- Being committed to developing staff across all sectors within a culture of working together while providing respect and preserving the dignity of those they support
- Providing appropriate services aimed at supporting users and carers at home for as long as possible
- Providing a range of high quality inpatient services able to respond to planned and emergency admission with clear pathways for people to return home
- Providing a range of high quality housing with care, residential and nursing care for those people who require alternative options
- Providing specialist support to care providers to enable them to provide high quality services.

3.3. Three overriding priorities have been identified:

- To ensure we commission the right range of services with the appropriate capacity to meet identified need
- That we develop a whole system approach and clearly identified pathways to access services
- That we identify and develop our workforce.

3.4 To support the implementation of the agreed strategy a joint appointment of a Project Manager has been agreed, which will help provide additional capacity to drive the strategy forward and monitor progress against the agreed implementation programme.

- 3.5 The draft strategy will be taken to the PCT Professional Executive Committee (PEC) in June as part of the NHS consultation process.
- 3.6 A full consultation programme is planned across the city, particularly with groups of older people and their carers to enable them to contribute to the design of the future service. Consultation will also be undertaken with voluntary sector, independent sector care providers in residential, nursing, and domiciliary care and housing with care, staff and the public to ensure others have the opportunity to engage and make comments on the draft proposals.
- 3.7 It is expected that there will be guidance issued on the organisation of Mental Health services in the NHS into larger groupings (potentially a Coventry and Warwickshire Mental Health Trust). The City Council will be consulted on any proposed changes and the Director of Social Services and Housing is having a discussions with the Health Communities about alternative more local models for delivery. The development of the Older People Mental Health strategy, and consultation process would help to identify the model of service delivery that would be most appropriate for the local needs of service users and their carers in Coventry, within the potential new structural organisation with a wider geographically and all age mental health service focus.

4 Proposals to be considered

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member (Community Services) is asked to approve a consultation process with staff in PCT, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) and Social Services, users and carers, voluntary and independent sector providers and the public and other partner agencies in the city. The consultation process will also include seeking the views of staff in respect of the proposals
- 4.2 The consultation will be on the strategic development of a joint service for older people with mental health needs, and entering a partnership arrangement with the PCT.
- 4.3 It is proposed that the strategy builds on the success of joint working with the PCT to develop a joint mental health service for older people and pool resources to fully utilise the skills and resources to develop the mental health service for older people based around the person and carers needs. The service would be founded on the values and vision agreed through the consultation process.
- 4.4 It is proposed that once the consultation period has finished the agreed joint strategy will be formally agreed and adopted by the Council and PCT.
- 4.5 Regular monitor reports on the progress on implementation of the joint strategy will be provided to the Cabinet and PCT and Older People's Partnership.

5 Other specific implications

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Area Co-ordination		
Best Value	√	
Children and Young People		

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Comparable Benchmark Data		
Corporate Parenting		
Coventry Community Plan		
Crime and Disorder		
Equal Opportunities	√	
Finance	√	
Health and Safety		
Human Resources	√	
Human Rights Act		
Impact on Partner Organisations	√	
Information and Communications Technology	√	
Legal Implications		
Property Implications	√	
Race Equality Scheme		
Risk Management		
Sustainable Development		
Trade Union Consultation	√	
Voluntary Sector – The Coventry Compact	√	

5.1 **Best Value**

The development of a joint service with the PCT would ensure that the resources are managed appropriately and used in an efficient and effective way to promote and develop services for older people with mental health needs.

5.2 **Human Resources**

The current staffing structure is being reviewed in respect of the proposals in the strategy. We anticipate that there will be some staffing implications and work is continuing to identify these.

There is opportunity for development and expansion of the service recognised and resources have been identified for service development by both the PCT and Social Services in the current financial year.

5.3 **Impact on Partner Organisations**

These proposals promote positive partnership across the statutory agencies of PCT and Social Services and beyond, in line with the priorities of the Older People's Partnership.

5.4 **Information and Communication Technology**

In bringing the PCT and Social Services components of the mental health service for older people there will be communication and IT implications in ensuring that the different information systems have connectivity.

This is already being addressed through the joint corporate working on the National Programme for Information Technology (NPfIT) within the PCT ensuring there links based on client-based information needs. At the service level the specific IT requirements and implications will need to be identified and addressed as part of the implementation programme.

5.5 Property implications

There will be accommodation implications in co-locating multi-agency teams together. These are being identified and will be considered by both the Council and PCT.

5.6 Finance

The draft strategy proposes bringing the services together to enable a clear focus on the client's needs and efficient use of all resources. The financial implications are being identified, and closer and joint working should result in more efficient use of the total resource for the mental health service for older people.

5.7 Equal Opportunities

The National Service Framework (NSF) for Older People identifies older people with mental health needs and their carers as amongst the most vulnerable and socially excluded in our society.

5.8 Trade Union Consultation

Staff and Trade Unions will be fully consulted on the developments through out the consultation period.

5.9 Voluntary Sector – the Coventry Compact

These proposals support the spirit of the Coventry Compact by extending the partnership arrangements beyond the traditional health and social care support for older people with mental health needs and their carers.

6 Monitoring

- 6.1 The outcome of the consultation process will be reported back to the Cabinet Member (Community Services), the PCT Professional Executive Committee (PEC), and the Older People Partnership at the end of the Consultation period

7 Timescale and expected outcomes

- 7.1 Should the draft Strategy for Older Peoples Mental Health services be approved, it is planned to develop an implementation programme and action plan and commence implementation as soon as practicable.

	Yes	No
Key Decision		√
Scrutiny Consideration		√
Council Consideration		√

List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

Description of paper

Location

Draft Older Peoples Mental Health Strategy (April 2005)

National Service Framework for Older People

Civic Centre 1

