

Kirklees Council

Scrutiny Report - Older People's Mental Health Inpatient Services

Kirklees Members:

Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Shabir Pandoor (2023 /24)
Councillor Gwen Lowe (2024 /25)

Period of Update: From: August 2023 – November 2024

Overview:

There are 5 mental health inpatient wards, Beechdale Ward at Calderdale Royal Hospital (mixed needs and mixed gender), two wards (one male and one female) in the Priestley Unit, Ward 19, Dewsbury and District Hospital (mixed needs), The Crofton Ward, Fieldhead Hospital, Wakefield (mixed needs and mixed gender) and The poplars, Hemsworth, Wakefield (mixed gender dementia ward). Provision for people with functional mental health needs and people with Dementia is very different. South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) have consulted on the proposal to create specialist inpatient wards for people living with Demetia and dedicated inpatient wards for those with functional mental health needs. The purpose of the consultation will help shape the future of mental health services, and ensure the right decisions are made for the communities, patients, carers, families, loved ones and staff.

Adult Health and Social Care Panel Meeting – 15 August 2023

The Panel considered information relating to SWYPFT's proposals for inpatient mental health services for older people. On the 4 July 2023 Health scrutiny councillors from Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield attended an informal workshop with representatives from SWYPFT and the Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield Health and Care Partnerships about the proposals. The councillors from the three local authorities reached the conclusion that based on the information presented, and the subsequent discussions, that the older people's mental health transformation programme was highly likely to be a substantial development or variation in service provision.

The Panel was therefore asked to consider whether a formal Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee should be established to consider the proposals.

Outcomes:

- The Panel agreed to the formation of a Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee with Calderdale and Wakefield Councils, and a report is before the OSMC at it's meeting to consider next steps.

Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield JHOSC Meeting – 27th November 2023

Information was shared with the Committee in relation to the future vision for mental

health impatient services and the challenges with the current model.

Discussions took place in relation to:

- The draft business case and the options development.
- The three proposed option choices and the confusion regarding these.
- Longer term demand and capacity.
- The workforce model for the future (staffing numbers and skills set).
- Travel and transport, with regards to the impact on service users and their families.
- The draft consultation plan.

Outcome:

The Committee concluded that:

- Additional information be provided, which included the clinical senate report and transport and travel analysis.
- The draft consultation document be shared with members to ensure that the format, and the 3 proposed option choices were presented clearly.
- Every effort was put into the consultation process in terms of engaging people across the district and sharing it as widely as possible.
- An informal meeting be held for members to discuss the additional documentation and draft consultation document.
- A monthly overview report be provided to members.
- A further meeting be arranged mid-consultation period.

A 12 week consultation process ran from 5th January until 29th March 2024.

Mid-point Consultation Review Meeting – 12th February 2024

A mid-point review was held with the JHOSC to consider that the consultation was on track, and to identify any key areas of concern.

This provided the Committee with information relating to the communication activity, consultation events and activities and the number of consultation responses received between 5th January and 6th February 2024, in which 403 people had completed the survey. It also gave an overview of the progress to date.

The committee were asked to consider if the Trust was on track, and to identify any areas of concern or key things the Trust needed to consider.

Outcome:

The Committee concluded that:

- A huge amount of work had already been done and was mostly on track
- Assurance on effective communications was required
- Further consideration of accessibility and a range of communications was needed
- Transport and location of services needed to be a focus
- Broaden the scope of the consultation – who else to target, look at areas of under representation
- Closer liaison with councillors to facilitate communication and roll out.

Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield JHOSC Meeting – 15th August 2024

The Committee received a summary of the consultation report and Equality Impact Assessment (EIA), and were asked to provide comment, assurance of the process and feedback on the findings before transitioning into the decision-making process.

The meeting was part of a five-week deliberation period to reach a final recommendation and a decision-making report being completed.

The consultation had sought comments on the proposed options (option 1a, 1b and 2) from people living in Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield who would potentially be impacted, as well as staff and key stakeholders.

The Committee raised some concerns in relation to health care terminology and this being misleading, transport, travel and parking, staff training / skills, financial figures and inflation etc.

Members were advised that a travel and transport groups, which included carer representation was exploring potential mitigations for people who could be impacted, and that all viable options would require site development work. Updated and ongoing costs for each option would be provided in the final business case.

In discussion, members agreed that the EIA was very comprehensive and that the survey results indicated a clear preference for option 1a.

As part of the deliberation process a wider stakeholder event would take place on 23rd August 2024 and member were invited to attend.

Outcome:

The committee we assured that:

- Due regard to equality and diversity was evident through the delivery of consultation activity and in the independent report findings.
- Adequate time had been given to consider the responses contained in the independent report of findings.
- The product of consultation had conscientiously taken into account all of the key themes that needed to be considered.

Following the deliberation period members would consider and review the final decision in line with its Terms of Reference at its next meeting.

Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield JHOSC Meeting – 6th November 2024

The Committee was asked to consider the decision-making business case and to provide assurance that the proposed recommendation option 1a had been made, fully considering the consultation findings, and that they was in support of the recommended option 1a being implemented.

The decision -making business case highlighted that the new model would have strong benefits and remove many of the existing challenges.

- Option 1a was evidenced to be the best of the three options consulted on, across a range of considerations.

- The impact assessments had supported the planning of effective implementation.
- Whilst there were still some travel implications for people visiting, it was hoped the numbers would be low.
- Commitment was given from the NHS West Yorkshire ICB on the financial investment into the model.

Outcome:

- The Committee were in support of the recommended option 1a being implemented.
- The Committee agreed that SWYPFT and NHS West Yorkshire ICB provide an update to the Committee in the new year with regards to:
 - Workforce planning
 - An update on the Business Case
 - Implementation plans.

Next Steps:

The Committee are awaiting a date when the next meeting will take place.