

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

13th September 2019

***Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust –
Development of Hambleton and Richmondshire
community mental health hub.***

Report of

Martin Dale, Strategic Project Manager, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust

Purpose of this report

1. This paper provides an update regarding the proposed community mental health hub for Hambleton and Richmondshire in Northallerton, and provides detail of recent developments and progress made.

Background

2. Mental health services across Hambleton and Richmondshire have been provided across a range of premises including health centres, surgeries, general hospital facilities and business parks. It has long been identified that the services need to work more closely together and that this could be best supported by locating them alongside each other.
3. The removal of mental health inpatient beds in early 2019 has enabled investment into community services (discussed in a separate paper submitted to the committee for review on 13th September 2019) which has sought to significantly improve access for service users and carers, and to extend the mental health service offer to better meet people's needs, especially when experiencing emotional distress. These developments have been funded through the reinvestment of finance which was previously required to maintain the established inpatient bed provision.
4. Alongside the enhanced provision of community mental health services, the development of a new community mental health hub has been actively pursued in order to join services more efficiently, increase the consulting / interview room spaces available and to enable a more therapeutic environment in which people can be seen.
5. The proposed design intends to co-locate services from all 4 mental health specialties (Adults, Older Persons, Children and Young People and Learning Disabilities) within the same premises to enable more effective communication and enhance joint working opportunities which will encourage safe transfers of care, such as the transition from children's services to adults.

6. Children and Young Persons services will have a separate entrance, reception and consulting spaces but staff will have access to shared facilities such as meeting and training rooms, dining facilities and break out spaces. This is to ensure safeguarding compliance, whilst retaining an “*under one roof*” ethos.
7. The development programme for the new hub has met a number of challenges, not least in relation to identifying an achievable site. An original intention to construct the new hub within the grounds of the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton was unable to proceed and an alternative site was therefore required.
8. An alternative site has now been identified within the new development area, Kings Park, adjacent Darlington Road in Northallerton and an image of the intended completed design is illustrated below.



9. The design has been developed with the involvement of service users, carers and clinical staff and a dedicated project team has been established to oversee the development and transfer of services.
10. The project team has reviewed the design concept and internal layouts and a number of suggestions have been made for minor amendments to enhance waiting areas and flexible working spaces, and to ensure that the reception area is welcoming and safe, building on the positive feedback received regarding the open mental health reception area at the Friarage Hospital.
11. Following the design review a planning application has been submitted and is currently in progress (at time of writing this report) with approval expected in September 2019
12. One question was raised at an early stage regarding the car parking facilities and likely availability of spaces for service users and carers when attending appointments.
13. The question was raised in connection to the number of staff working into the building and it has transpired that the information previously submitted listed the total number of people assigned to the new hub as their place of work, and not the

number of people who will be present in the building on each given day. These numbers are quite different as staff work over extended periods and this was not clearly asserted by us originally. The correct calculation has now been submitted along with a detailed report from our appointed travel consultants, and it clearly demonstrates sufficient parking for service users and clinical staff.

14. We will update the Scrutiny of Health Committee on 13.09.19 regarding progress with this application and general progress with the scheme.

Implications

- **Financial** – The development of the Hambleton and Richmondshire hub is being met from TEWV capital reserves
- **Human Resources** – A management of change process within TEWV will be facilitated prior to transfer of services into the new hub
- **Equalities** – A refreshed equality impact assessment will be completed prior the Full Business Case being approved
- **Legal** – N/A
- **Crime and Disorder** - N/A
- **Information Technology (IT)** – The new hub will embrace the most up to date technology to support remote working and expected levels of connectivity
- **Property** – N/A

Conclusions

The development of the Hambleton and Richmondshire community mental health hub provides an excellent opportunity to bring together all 4 mental health specialties to enable improved communication and enable safe transfers of care, build on the work undertaken at Huntington House in York, and will provide invaluable learning for the planned Selby community hub scheme.

Improvements to mental health working environments for staff and with regards to care environments for service users and carers have long been overdue in Northallerton. There has been little previous opportunity to significantly increase consulting room space and to promote the levels of joint working which can be achieved when services sit under the same roof.

The development of the hub is a crucial next step for services, since the removal of inpatient beds in early 2019, and represents an exciting opportunity to continue modernising services.

Recommendations

The committee is asked to review and note this paper.

Author

Martin Dale, Strategic Project Manager, Tees Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust

martindale@nhs.net