

<b>Scrutiny Committee:</b>	Health & Social Care Review Group (HSCRG)
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	21 June 2021
<b>Subject:</b>	Update on Modernising Inpatient Mental Health Services in Bedfordshire & Luton Programme
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## Purpose

1. This paper provides an update to the Scrutiny Health & Care Review Group on progress with the development of the modernising inpatient mental health services in Bedfordshire & Luton programme. In particular, the first draft case for change and engagement plan are attached for comment by the Committee.
2. The draft case for change is in first draft and will be developed further over the course of June 2021, with the intention that it is published at the beginning of July 2021 followed by a period of engagement over the Summer to listen to views and feedback from service users and carers, residents and stakeholders.

## Recommendation

3. **That the Committee note the report and comment on the draft case for change engagement plan.**

## Report

### Key points

4. We are making progress with our plans to modernise inpatient mental health services for residents of Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton. A draft case for change is attached, which we intend to publish at the beginning of July 2021 and use as the basis for extensive engagement. We will aim to bring back a report of our engagement in Autumn 2021.
5. We are not proposing to reduce the number of beds available to Luton residents, or to require Luton adults or older adults who require an acute adult admission to travel to Bedford. We are proposing to significantly improve access and quality for Luton residents, with 100% of acute adult admissions for Luton residents being to the Luton Centre for Mental Health, adjacent to the Luton & Dunstable Hospital, in the future.

### Introduction

6. Bedfordshire, Luton & Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group (BLMKCCG) and Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health & Wellbeing Services (BLMHWS) managed by ELFT are committed to developing modern, state-of-the-art mental health services for people with mental health problems in Bedfordshire and Luton.

7. The Bedfordshire, Luton & Milton Keynes Integrated Care System (ICS) response to the NHS Long Term Plan will bring new investment of circa £37m to mental health across the ICS between 2019/20 and 2023/24, with substantial development and improvement of mental health services for pregnant women and new mothers, children & young people, adults with common mental health problems and adults with serious mental illness, including crisis and community services.
8. As part of our whole system approach to improving mental health services, BLMKCCG and BLMHWS are committed to improving inpatient mental health services, improving the quality of our inpatient services at the Luton Centre for Mental Health, and returning inpatient mental health services to Bedford following the closure of Weller Wing at Bedford Hospital in 2017.
9. Our vision is to develop community and inpatient mental health services that deliver the best possible outcomes for the children and young people, adults and older adults that we serve, providing great care in a recovery-focussed and therapeutic environment, that supports our staff and teams to practice to their full potential.
10. The proposals include moving from the four current inpatient sites for residents of Bedfordshire and Luton (Bedford Health Village in Bedford, Luton Centre for Mental Health at the Luton & Dunstable Hospital, Oakley Court in Leagrave and Townsend Court in Houghton Regis) to two sites, at Bedford Health Village and the Luton Centre for Mental Health. The proposals therefore include the closure of our sites at Oakley Court (two adult acute admission wards, 11 female, 19 male) and Townsend Court (one adult acute inpatient ward, 18 female; one older adult ward, 20 mixed male and female).
11. The draft case for change lays out the rationale for our proposals, including views of service users, carers, and staff.
12. We are not proposing to reduce the number of beds available to Luton residents, or to require Luton adults or older adults who require an acute adult admission to travel to Bedford. We are proposing to significantly improve access and quality for Luton residents, with 100% of acute adult admissions for Luton residents being to the Luton Centre for Mental Health, adjacent to the Luton & Dunstable Hospital, in the future.
13. Luton and Bedford centres for inpatient mental health services would form part of our comprehensive mental health offer, and be supported by, and complement, community mental health services across Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton.

## Progress Update

14. BLMKCCG and BLMHWS last presented an update to the Scrutiny Health & Care Review Group on 3/3/21. The Committee indicated that the proposals will constitute significant service change, which will therefore require formal public consultation. We have also presented to both Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Councils health overview and scrutiny committees, which concurred with the view that the proposals would require public consultation. The Scrutiny Health & Care Review Group requested a further update including the draft case for change and engagement plan to be presented at the 21/6/21 Committee.

15. The draft case for change and engagement plan attached represent our first draft, and as a consequence there are some areas still to be completed. The document will take final form over the course of June 2021, in anticipation of its publication in July 2021 followed by a period of engagement to listen to views and feedback from service users and carers, residents and stakeholders. We intend to publish a report on the findings of the engagement process in Autumn 2021.
16. BLMKCCG and BLMHWS are in discussion with NHS England & Improvement East of England to determine formal next steps with regards to the development of the consultation and capital process, including the development of a pre-consultation business case and capital business case.
17. With regards to capital, BLMHWS is working across both Integrated Care Systems in which it is based, BLMK ICS and the North-East London ICS, to secure Capital Departmental Expenditure Limit cover, which is a critical next step and dependency to business case development.

## **Proposal/Option**

18. As per the recommendation at 2. Above.

## **Appendices (if any)**

Appendix A - Draft Modernising Inpatient Mental Health Services - Case for change

Appendix B - Draft Bedfordshire and Luton Inpatient Mental Health Transformation - Engagement Plan

## **List of Background Papers - Local Government Act 1972, Section 100D**

None