

Older People Community Mental Health Services

Improvements to Community Health Services
for older people in Leeds



This leaflet is a short summary of our plans to change and improve the way we provide community mental health services for older people across Leeds. It explains what we're changing and why we think this will improve services.

The changes will create a dedicated older people's service for the city and will improve the support we give to those aged 65 or over.

We'd like to know what you think so we can reflect our community's views in the final reorganisation. Have a look at the back page to find out how you can join the conversation.

What happens now?

Since 2012 our community mental health services have worked with all adult age groups. We hoped that this would help us to meet the ever increasing demands for older people's services. Feedback from our staff and our service users and carers tells us that our services don't feel responsive enough to the needs of older adults.

We also know that there are differences in the way our service works in different parts of the city and moving between different teams within our service can be difficult.

The changes we're making

We plan to create a separate older people's community mental health service. Having a dedicated service will allow us to recognise and respond better to the mental health and dementia-related difficulties of those in later life. As far as possible, the service will be the same wherever people live in the city.

The new older people's service will include community mental health teams, memory assessment services and an intensive home treatment team. Having these dedicated teams will allow our staff to focus their expertise on older people's needs, so that the people who use our services can feel confident that they will get high quality care. The teams will include a variety of professionals working together such as nurses, occupational therapists, psychiatrists, psychologists, health support workers and other specialisms like physiotherapy, pharmacy, dietetics and speech and language therapy when needed.



Improving our Memory Assessment Service

We will provide rapid access to assessment and diagnosis and will give appropriate treatment and short-term support based on what the service user and their carers needs. The service will work closely with organisations that offer ongoing support to people with memory problems and there will be a separate service for younger people with dementia.

Providing an Intensive Home Treatment Team

This team will provide care, treatment and support for people with the most intensive mental health, dementia and complex frailty needs for up to six weeks. This support will mostly be offered wherever the service user lives. During this time our team of experts will be working with the service user, their carers and other providers to identify

a care package that meets the individual's future needs.

The benefits

- More contact with the support team who are dedicated to working with older people
- Better continuity of care between different parts of our service
- More home-based treatment that offers a genuine alternative to hospital admission
- Inpatient and community services are more joined up
- More shared and joined up care between our mental health service and other organisations in the city
- Decisions about care and admission to hospital being made in a consistent way

How we're communicating

We want to hear from everyone in our community. If you would like any of our information in large print, easy read or a community language, please let us know.

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You can find all our written information and other detailed background information on our website at:

www.leedsandyorkpft.nhs.uk/get-involved/community-mental-health/

There's a slide show which has a commentary describing our plans that you can download and discuss at home, work or in social settings.

We will visit and talk to community groups with an interest in mental health – have a look at the online diary to see when and where, or call us.

See below for how to get in touch with us.

What do you think?

We have a short feedback form where you can tell us what you think and if you have any worries about our plans. You don't need a stamp, just fill it in and pop it in the post or hand it to us.

It's also available online at www.leedsandyorkpft.nhs.net/get-involved/

Get in touch

If you've got any questions or want to send us some more detailed comments here's how to get in touch:

Tel: **0800 052 5790** (our Patient Advice and Liaison Service)

Email: communityredesign.lypft@nhs.net

Community Mental Health Redesign

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