

BRIEFING NOTE FROM

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Winterbourne View Improvement Programme

Background

In May 2011 the BBC programme Panorama aired a programme showing the appalling abuse of patients at the Winterbourne View Hospital in South Gloucestershire. The patients at Winterbourne View featured in the programme were people with varying degrees of learning disability who were in patients at the Hospital.

As a result of the programme the Department of Health carried out a complete review of the service the main ethos throughout the report was that “only local action can guarantee good practice, stop abuse and transform local services” and to do this local health care and care services must take action to:-

- 1) Develop a person-centred approach to commission placements, taking into account views of people with learning disabilities and their families
- 2) Ensure there are flexible community-based services
- 3) Focus on early detection, prevention and long-term support to prevent people reaching crisis levels and having to go into hospital.
- 4) Deliver care for the individual so that we can understand factors which might distress people and make behaviours more challenging.
- 5) Make reasonable adjustments for people with learning disabilities who have mental health needs so that they can make use of local generic mental health facilities.
- 6) Ensure services are carefully planned to care for children who are transitioning into adulthood and adult services in order to avoid crisis.

Over the last 2 years both Health and Local Authority services have been working toward a joint improvement programme based on the recommendations put forward in the Winterbourne View report, and in July this year a joint progression report “The Winterbourne Stocktake” was completed detailing progress against some of the key recommendations. The full Stocktake report is embedded below..



Stocktake
Winterbourne View Jc

Progression Against Winterbourne Recommendations

Both Health and Local Authority Services have been working towards improving quality of care for people with both complex needs and learning disabilities.

Summarised below are some of the “highlights” noted within the Stocktake report.

- Additional Behaviour Support Strategy is in the process of being developed.
- Market Position Statement has been developed which looks at gaps in provision within Bury and how to fill those gaps.

- The “Living Options Group” looks at housing needs of individuals and ensures that those individual needs are match to housing accommodation and available support.
- Quality assurance checks on providers (with the involvement of self advocates) is currently being piloted.
- Where individuals fall outside normal funding arrangements – the Complex Care Panel will take over the review to ensure patient care is not compromised.
- Health and Local Authority learning disability teams are now entering their 6th year of co-location.
- Advocacy services are available to not only support the patient but also their families.
- Bury CCG have commissioned a mental health case manager jointly with the North East sector.
- A template has been developed and is in use whereby patient reviews are benchmarked against Winterbourne recommendations. Reviews also involve psychological staff in order to fully understand the individual behavioural support needs.
- The Greater Manchester LD leads meeting is working towards potential collaborative commissioning.
- Transition workers in both Children’s and Adult services are working collaboratively to ensure service transition is seamless.

Next Steps

Services will continue to be developed which will improve the services provided to the “Winterbourne cohort” as well as developing services around the more generic learning disability provision.

In development are:

- The Learning Disability Partnership Board will monitor the new joint Self Assessment Framework for learning disability services.
- Potential for pooled budgets/joint funding.
- Extension of the co-location model (currently in operation within the learning disabilities teams) across the wider health and social care spectrum.
- CCG developing an initial contact letter for out of area placements – in line with national protocols.
- Joint patient reviews between Health and Local Authority.