



Kent and Medway

## **Mental Health Services review**

### **Purpose of this paper**

This paper seeks to introduce the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to work being planned to services for people with mental health needs, including dementia, across Kent and Medway.

Changes to mental health services over recent years mean that effective treatment at home is now much more widely available.

However, there is scope for further improving care at home for people with dementia, and care close to home for people with eating disorders.

Kent and Medway Partnership Trust is working with mental health commissioners at NHS Kent and Medway to develop a long-term clinical strategy for secondary care for adults of working age. This is supported by proposed improvements to primary care mental health services.

We anticipate there will be a need for public consultation in 2012 on three areas of care:

- Improvements to older people's mental health services to enable more people with dementia to be looked after at home (introductory paper attached)
- Changes to Eating Disorder services to enable a more local and equitable service (following on from the paper dated 16/9/2011)
- Potential changes to specialist acute Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and inpatient services for adults under 65 in an acute phase of mental illness, to reflect improvements to services, both in and out of hospital over recent years, which enable early intervention in illness, much more treatment at home, and earlier supported discharge from hospital.

The planning for Older People's Mental Health affects only east Kent. However, the other two affect the whole of Kent and Medway. We would request that Kent and Medway HOSCs jointly consider the clinical cases for change; any options appraisals and consultation plans, when developed.