

## Item 6: Transforming Mental Health and Dementia Services in Kent and Medway

By: Kay Goldsmith, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 10 June 2021

Subject: Transforming Mental Health and Dementia Services in Kent and Medway

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Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by Kent and Medway CCG.

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### **1) Introduction**

- a) The Kent and Medway CCG has asked to update the Committee on its mental health and dementia services transformation.
- b) During previous HOSC meetings, the Kent and Medway CCG have referenced the transformation, which includes five workstreams:
  - i. Reducing the need for people to be inappropriately admitted to an acute ward (because of no suitable alternative) by improving community-based support.
  - ii. Improving psychiatric intensive care for women, by developing and providing this specialist service in Kent and Medway, where currently women needing this very high level of care have to be treated out of county.
  - iii. Developing specialist dementia services for people with complex needs.
  - iv. Eradicating outdated and unsafe dormitory wards.
  - v. Redesigning community mental health services.

### **2) Previous monitoring by HOSC**

- a) HOSC received information about the third workstream, “developing specialist dementia services for people with complex needs” at its meeting in March 2021. Following discussion, the Committee were unable to determine if the proposals constituted a substantial variation of service and invited the CCG back once there was more information available.
- b) HOSC will receive information about the fourth workstream above, “eradicating outdated and unsafe dormitory wards”, at today’s meeting.

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### 3) Substantial variation of service

- a) This agenda item provides an overview of the mental health transformation, which is an overarching programme containing a number of individual but related, workstreams. It is expected that these workstreams will run as separate pieces of work with their own consultations, if required.
- b) In light of this, it is proposed that HOSC note this report and agree to receive updates on the programme's progression, whilst accepting individual reports on each of the workstreams at the appropriate time. This will allow the Committee to determine if each item is a substantial variation of service and proceed accordingly.

### 4) Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the Committee

- i. note the report
- ii. agree to receive regular updates on Kent and Medway's mental health and dementia improvement programme
- iii. agree to determine on an individual basis if the workstreams constitute a substantial variation of service

### Background Documents

Kent County Council (2021) 'Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (04/03/21)', <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=8500&Ver=4>

### Contact Details

Kay Goldsmith  
Scrutiny Research Officer  
[kay.goldsmith@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kay.goldsmith@kent.gov.uk)  
03000 416512