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To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 June 2010

Subject: Item 4. Intended Outcomes: Accessing Mental Health Services: Adult and Older People's Inpatient Services.

1. Background

(1) In previous discussions that the Committee has had about different ways to restructure and refocus the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, one of the recurring themes has been that the Committee's meetings should be more focused on the outcomes it would like to achieve. Another has been the need to make the work of the Committee more accessible to members of the public.

(2) This paper is intended to be a way to progress towards achieving these twin aims. Two sets of questions are set out below, both of which the meeting will look to having answered by the end of the meeting: the strategic (or public), overarching questions, and the more detailed questions. The detailed questions have been sent to the attendees in advance of the meeting (and include versions of the strategic questions).

2. Hierarchy of Questions

(1). Strategic Questions

1. What planned changes are being carried out in adult and older people's inpatient mental health services?
2. What changes are planned for the future?

(2). Detailed Questions

1. What adult mental health inpatient services are commissioned for your resident population under the following headings:
 - a. adult mental health;
 - b. older people's mental health;
 - c. acute inpatient services;
 - d. other (please specify).
2. For each of the services listed above please give the following:
 - a. Name and location
 - b. Provider
 - c. Number of beds, including occupancy rates, and average number of bed days per patient.
 - d. Staffing
 - e. Route of referral
 - f. Specific details of the types of conditions dealt with by the service.

3. Are any changes to these inpatient services being carried out or being planned?
4. How much do you spend on adult mental health services each year, and how much is spent specifically on inpatient services?
5. How much is this as a proportion of your overall spend and how does this compare to the other Primary Care Trusts across the SEC SHA area?
6. What are your expectations for both of these amounts in coming years?
7. How are community mental health services being developed and how is it anticipated that these will complement or replace inpatient services?
8. What actions are you taking to reduce mental health inpatient admissions?
9. Are any tertiary or Tier 4 adult mental health services commissioned outside of Kent and Medway?
10. How is commissioning of adult mental health services integrated with that of other Primary Care Trusts in Kent and Medway and Kent Adult Social Services?
11. Can you please provide any relevant PALs data relating to adult mental health inpatient services?
12. More broadly, has there been any increase in mental health referrals that are thought to result from the effects of the economic downturn? And if so, is there sufficient capacity to deal with them?

3. Recommendations

- (a) The Committee is asked to assess whether the outcomes in section 2 above have been achieved or if further information on this topic is required by the Committee.