

With regards to your request for a response to the actions, points and views expressed in the minutes of the meeting of the HOSC held on 11 January 2008, I have detailed below the Trust's response to issues we believe require further comment:

- **Minute number 79 (2i): "It was stated that, in some parts of Kent, A&E mental health liaison nurses were employed, with access to CRHTs to make an assessment of a patient if necessary"**

East Kent A&E Liaison Service – offers a rapid assessment service for people with mental health problems who use an Accident and Emergency [A&E] Department in East Kent (William Harvey Hospital, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother [QEQM] Hospital and Kent and Canterbury Hospital). The service operates seven days a week, 09.00 – 00.00 hours. It includes eight members of staff (1 x Nurse Band 7, 7 x Nurse Band 6).

Medway A&E Liaison Service – there is no dedicated A&E Liaison Service in Medway. However the Medway Assessment and Short Term Treatment [MASTT] team have responsibility for this function and interface very closely with Crisis Resolution Home Treatment [CRHT] team when acute care is the required intervention. MASTT operates twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

West Kent A&E Liaison Service – in Dartford, Gravesend and Swanley [DGS] there is 1 whole time equivalent [wte] A&E Liaison post, that operate 09.00 – 17.00 hours Monday to Friday providing cover to the Darent Valley Hospital A&E. The post is presently based in the DGS CRHT.

In Maidstone there are 2 wte A&E Liaison posts, which operate 09.00 – 17.00 hours Monday to Friday, providing cover to the Maidstone Hospital A&E and medical Wards. The posts are based at Priority House and come under Maidstone CRHT management.

In South West Kent there is 1.60 wte A&E Liaison posts, that operate 09.00 – 17.00 hours Monday to Friday, and provide cover to the Kent and Sussex Hospital A&E and Medical Wards. The posts are based in the Kent and Sussex Hospital A&E and come under South West Kent CRHT management.

Outside of 09.00 – 17.00 hours Monday to Friday, assessments are completed in the A&E by the Junior Doctor On Call and a member of the CRHT Team.

- **Minute number 79 (3k): "In responding to a question about bed numbers, Mr Millar said that the Partnership Trust had 46 wards in total and promised to make available to the Committee a full beds schedule"**

Appendix B, embedded in this letter, provides the detail requested.

- **Minute number 79 (3m): "The often long and drawn-out process of trying to get someone with severe mental health problems "sectioned" was highlights. A multiplicity of agencies were involved and they needed to work together to achieve a quick, speedy and satisfactory outcome. one of the issues was that the police in these situations would only attend when they had resources available. It was**

important that colleagues in the health Service engaged with the police and ambulance service to ensure that adequate assistance was given by the police when it was required"

The Out of Hours Approved Mental Health Act Assessment Service was moved to the Trust on 3 December 2007. Since that time we have been working hard to establish positive relationships with our colleagues with both the Police and Ambulance Service and additionally with different professionals within the Trust. Margaret Vickers (Associate Director of Social Care) who manages the service has now met with both Roy Kingston (Kent Police) and Paul Barratt (Head of Non Emergency Ambulance Services). The Social Care Management Team has worked consistently with the Crisis Teams within the Trust to develop positive support for these assessments from staff. Overall feedback from professionals in the Trust has been positive about the new arrangements, which have led to approximately 50% more Mental Health Act Assessments being completed out of hours.

Previously these assessments would have had to wait over night for day teams to assess or, in the case of Section 136s, the patient would have been discharged without having been seen by a Social Worker.

We continue to depend on good support for our conveyancing from the Police and Ambulance Service and although we are establishing positive relationships with them, there are still difficulties in them responding as quickly as is desirable for service users in these critical situations. This is as a result of the skeleton service that they have available over night. Peter Hasler (Director of Nursing and Modernisation / Interim Director of Operations) and Lauretta Kavanagh (Director of Commissioning Medway PCT) are now looking into purchasing their own conveyancing service with specific requirements from Kent and Surrey Ambulance Trust.

APPENDIX B

Kent and Medway 
 NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Full Beds Schedule as at 21 April 2008

| Location | Ward | Bed Type & Numbers |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Ashford (William Harvey Hospital) | Edgehill | Adult x 19 |
| | Newington | Adult x 19 |
| | Scarburgh | Adult x 19 |
| | Winslow | Older Peoples x 20 |
| Canterbury (St Martins) | Anselm Admission Ward | Adult x 18 |
| | Cranmer | Older Peoples x 15 |
| | Dudley Venerables Unit | Adult Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit [PICU] x 08 Adult x 04 |
| | Edmund | Older Peoples (Female) x 15 |
| | Ramsey | Older Peoples (Male) x 15 |
| Dartford (Darent Valley Hospital) | Jasmine Centre | Older Peoples Organic x 10 |
| Dartford (Greenacres Site) | Little Stone Lodge | Older Peoples Continuing Care x 20 |
| | Rosewood Lodge | Adult Rehabilitation x 12 |
| Dartford (Little Brook Hospital) | Amberwood | Adults (Female) x 16 |
| | Birch | Older Peoples Functional x 16 |
| | Willow Suite | Adult PICU (West Kent and Medway) x 12 |
| | Woodlands | Adults x 16 |

| Location | Ward | Bed Type & Numbers |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Dartford (Tarenfort) | Marle | Forensic Learning Disability x 10 |
| | Riverhill | Forensic Learning Disability x 10 |
| Maidstone (Fant Oast) | Fant Oast | Child and Adolescent x 07 |
| Maidstone (Priority House) | Amherst | Adults (Maidstone) x 17 |
| | Brocklehurst | Adults (South West Kent) x 17 |
| | The Orchards | Older Peoples x 25 |
| Maidstone (Red House) | Red House | Eating Disorder x 06 |
| Maidstone (111 Tonbridge Road) | 111 Tonbridge Road | Adult Rehabilitation x 09 |
| Maidstone (Trevor Gibbens Unit) | Bedgebury | Forensic Pre-Discharge Secure (Male) x 05 |
| | Emmetts | Forensic Rehabilitation (Male) x 16 |
| | Groombridge | Forensic Sub-Acute (Male) x 11 |
| | Hucking | Forensic Pre-Discharge Low Secure x 04 |
| | Penshurst | Forensic Acute (Male) x 11 |
| | Scotney | Forensic Intensive Care Unit [ICU] (Male) x 04 |
| | Walmer | Forensic (Female) x 11 |
| Margate (Westbrook House) | Ogden Wing | Older Peoples (Continuing Care) x 10 |
| Gillingham (Medway Hospital) | Emerald | Adult Acute x 24 |
| | Newhaven Lodge | Adult Rehabilitation x 8 |
| | Ruby | Adult (Female) x 18 |
| | Sapphire | Adult High Dependency x 10 |
| Sevenoaks (Darent House) | Darent House | Neuro-Rehabilitation & Neuro-Psychiatry x 10 |

| Location | Ward | Bed Type & Numbers |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Swale (Frank Lloyd) | Heartsdelight / Highstead / Rowena / Southlands | Older Peoples Assessment and Treatment x 10 Older Peoples Continuing Care x 26 |
| Thanet | Elmstone | Adult x 14 |
| | Sevenscore | Older Peoples x 16 |
| | Woodchurch | Adult x 05 |
| | Woodchurch | Older Peoples x 10 |
| Tunbridge Wells (Highlands House) | Leedham | Older Peoples x 14 |