

## Item 6: Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services

By: Gaetano Romagnuolo, Research Officer - Overview and Scrutiny

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 9 October 2025

Subject: Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services

---

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided by the NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board.

The Committee has yet to determine whether the proposals constitute a substantial variation of service. Attached is a completed questionnaire for the Committee's consideration.

---

### 1) Introduction

- a) This report provides information to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding NHS Kent and Medway's recent decision to award a new Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services (IAAMHS) contract to Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT). It outlines the rationale for this contract award, confirms NHSKM's commitment to service continuity and workforce stability, and details how the contract safeguards Kent's voice in future service development.
- b) The report also sets out how statutory duties around service variation and engagement will be met throughout the life of the contract. In addition, this report provides an update on the successful conclusion of NHS Kent and Medway's recent competitive procurement for Kent's Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Therapeutic Alliance contract, and the subsequent contract award to Salus CIC.

### 2) Potential Substantial Variation of Service

- a) The Committee is asked to review whether this proposal constitutes a substantial variation of service. While there are no formal criteria setting out what a substantial variation is, attached is a questionnaire, completed by the ICB, to aid the Committee in its decision.
- b) Where the Committee decides that a proposal is a substantial variation of service, the NHS is required to consult with it prior to a final decision being made. The NHS always remains the decision-maker, though it must take the comments of the Committee into account.
- c) In considering substantial variations of service, the Committee will take into account the resource envelope within which the relevant NHS organisations operate and will therefore take into account the effect of the proposals on the sustainability of services, as well as on their quality and safety.

## Item 6: Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services

### 3) Recommendation

- a) If the proposals relating to the new Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services are deemed substantial:

RECOMMENDED that:

- i. the Committee deems that the new Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services model is a substantial variation of service.
- ii. NHS representatives be invited to attend this Committee and present an update at an appropriate time.

- b) If the proposals relating to the new Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services are *not* deemed substantial:

RECOMMENDED that:

- i. the Committee deems that the new Integrated All-Age Mental Health Services model is not a substantial variation of service.
- ii. NHS representatives be invited to attend this Committee and present an update at an appropriate time.

### Background Documents

None.

### Contact Details

Gaetano Romagnuolo  
Research Officer - Overview and Scrutiny  
Email: [gaetano.romagnuolo@kent.gov.uk](mailto:gaetano.romagnuolo@kent.gov.uk)  
03000 416624