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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board



Meeting Date	23rd June 2021	Agenda Item	2.3
Report Title	Public Engagement on proposed changes to Older Peoples' Mental Health Services in Swansea Bay		
Report Author	Joanne Abbott-Davies, Assistant Director of Strategy & Partnerships David Roberts, Service Director, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Delivery Group		
Report Sponsor	Siân Harrop-Griffiths, Director of Strategy		
Presented by	Joanne Abbott-Davies, Assistant Director of Strategy & Partnerships		
Freedom of Information	Open		
Purpose of the Report	<p>The purpose of this report is to outline how the Health Board is proposing to ask for people's experiences of older people's mental health support and services.</p> <p>It also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outlines the engagement proposed on the creation of a single integrated service; • proposes to change the permanent location of some beds from Neath Port Talbot Hospital to Tonna, whilst making this released capacity available to deliver protected elective orthopaedic activity; and • outlines the proposed reduction in beds for older people with the highest level of mental health needs reflecting the increased levels of care provided in communities to support people in their own homes • outlines how the facilities at Neath Port Talbot Hospital will be repurposed to meet the increased needs of our orthopaedic patients 		
Key Issues	<p>Swansea Bay UHB is working with its partner Local Authorities, the voluntary sector, carers and patients to develop a multi-agency strategic framework for older people's mental health services and wants to get feedback on people's experiences of the support and services available to them to inform this.</p> <p>Over the past three years new community services have been developed to enhance the range of services available for older people with mental health needs which has reduced the usage of beds. The pandemic resulted in temporary changes to the use and distribution of these beds and this paper outlines how the community alternatives we</p>		

	have implemented have reduced the level of need for the beds originally funded and operated and proposes permanent changes to these services as a result.			
Specific Action Required <i>(please choose one only)</i>	Information	Discussion	Assurance	Approval
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGREE the draft engagement document on the proposed changes to older peoples' mental health services; • AGREE the draft Equality Impact Assessment on these proposed changes • NOTE the engagement plan and timeline developed and agreed with the Community Health Council • NOTE that a summary of the engagement document is being prepared to be available from 5th July 2021. • AGREE formal public engagement on these proposals should commence from 5th July 2021 for a 10 week period as agreed with the Community Health Council, 			

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO OLDER PEOPLES' MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SWANSEA BAY

1. INTRODUCTION

This report outlines that the Health Board is asking for people's experiences of older people's mental health services so that these views can be taken account of in developing the multi-agency strategic framework for these services. It also:

- outlines the engagement proposed on the creation of a single integrated service;
- proposes to change the permanent location of some beds from Neath Port Talbot Hospital to Tonna, whilst making this released capacity available to deliver protected elective orthopaedic activity; and
- reduce the number beds for older people with the highest level of mental health needs reflecting the increased levels of care provided in communities to support people in their own homes;

2. KEY ISSUES

The then ABMU Health Board engaged on changes to older people's mental health services in 2017 as part of a package of changes aimed at investing more in community services, so allowing the number of older people's mental health beds to be reduced. Our Older Peoples' Mental Health Services have been changing and developing for a number of years to provide more community based services and support for people to stay at home for as long as possible as well as establishing services which support care homes to be able to care for people more appropriately and for longer. Our focus has been, and continues to be, ensuring people are cared for at home or as close to their home as possible with the right people supporting them to do this.

We have been working hard to develop new ways of providing care for people, aimed at preventing problems before they occur, intervening sooner when things do go wrong, and ensuring people don't have to be admitted to hospital unless there is no other way of providing appropriate care for their needs. The Health Board is working with our Local Authority partners, voluntary sector services, service users, carers and their families to develop a Strategic Framework for Older Peoples' Mental Health services which will describe the pattern of support and services in the Swansea Bay area which we all agree need to be in place in the future. As part of the public engagement on changes to these services, we are also asking for feedback on people's experience of services and support for older people with mental health problems so we can take account of these as we develop this Framework.

Comparison across the UK indicates that there is currently a higher than average number of older people's mental health beds in Swansea Bay than other areas. This is outlined in the table below:

Area	Equivalent beds per 100,000 of over 65 year olds
United Kingdom	48
Wales	84
Swansea Bay prior to temporary changes due to Covid (112 actual beds)	144

The Health Board is therefore proposing to establish a single integrated inpatient service to support older people with the highest level of mental health needs for the Region (i.e. Swansea Bay area). The single point of access to these services for the population of Swansea Bay would be Celyn Ward in Ysbryd y Coed at Cefn Coed Hospital with extended assessment / care provided in the other 2 wards within Ysbryd y Coed for the Swansea area and in Tonna Hospital for extended assessment / care for the Neath Port Talbot area.

The proposals also include increasing orthopaedic surgery activity at Neath Port Talbot Hospital, made possible by repurposing Ward G which prior to the pandemic was an older peoples' mental health ward (20 beds). However, the facilities at Tonna Hospital are recognised as not providing the privacy, dementia friendly facilities required for our older patients and so it is proposed to refurbish the Suites there to provide single rooms, mostly ensuite rooms and additional bathrooms and facilities. This will result in a reduction of beds at Tonna Hospital to 15.

The changes in beds proposed in this public engagement is outlined below:

	Number of beds pre-pandemic	Proposed Number of Beds
Ysbryd y Coed, Cefn Coed Hospital	60 for Swansea patients (54 due to temporary reduction due to Covid)	20 for NPT and Swansea patients requiring short-term assessment 40 for Swansea patients requiring longer term care / assessment
Neath Port Talbot Hospital	20	0
Tonna Hospital	32 (including 14 temporarily closed in 2019) for short-term assessment of NPT patients and longer term care / assessment of NPT patients	15 for longer term care / assessment of NPT patients
Total	112	75

In summary, we are proposing that we should reduce the 112 beds we had prior to the pandemic to 75 beds for our older people with the highest level of mental health needs who cannot receive safe care anywhere else. This proposed closure of 37 beds at Tonna and Neath Port Talbot Hospitals would result in Swansea Bay having the equivalent of **97 beds per 100,000 over 65 year olds, which would still be higher than the Welsh or UK averages (84 and 48 respectively).**

These proposed changes will enable us to concentrate our nursing and therapy staff more effectively into a smaller number of wards / sites and provide more appropriate designed environments and facilities for our patients. It will also enable the Health Board to make better use of scarce resources and use public money to best effect.

Because of the:

- additional community services put in place in recent years;
- planned new investment in memory assessment services; and
- continued reduction in demand for admissions.

We believe we can reduce these beds without negatively affecting our ability to provide services for our patients when they need it.

It has been agreed with Swansea Bay Community Health Council that the public engagement on these proposed changes should run for 10 weeks and will run from 5th July to 12th September 2021. To support this an engagement document has been developed, attached as **Appendix A** along with a timeline which is attached as **Appendix B**. The outcome of the engagement will be considered by the

CHC in September 2021 and based on this; decisions will be made about whether the proposed changes to services can be implemented or whether further public consultation is required.

If the CHC and Board agree that the service changes should be made, then this will be dependent upon the Health Board being able to secure the capital monies to undertake the work required at Tonna Hospital to bring the environment to the required standard to deliver the best possible care.

Because we need to ensure that any decisions made on these proposed changes take account of any impacts on people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 a draft Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment has been developed which will also be engaged on as part of the process. This document is attached as **Appendix C**. The anticipated impacts on the protected characteristic groups will be updated in full once patient, stakeholder, carer and staff feedback has been collected through the engagement process. The Stage 1 EIA will remain in draft form throughout the engagement period and will be updated accordingly as further evidence is gathered.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- **AGREE** the draft engagement document on the proposed changes to older peoples' mental health services;
- **AGREE** the draft Equality Impact Assessment on these proposed changes
- **NOTE** the engagement plan and timeline developed and agreed with the Community Health Council
- **NOTE** that a summary of the engagement document is being prepared to be available from 5th July 2021.
- **AGREE** formal public engagement on these proposals should commence from 5th July 2021 for a 10-week period as agreed with the Community Health Council

Governance and Assurance		
Link to Enabling Objectives (please choose)	Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities	
	Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Co-Production and Health Literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people	
	Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Partnerships for Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Excellent Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Care Standards		
(please choose)	Staying Healthy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Safe Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Effective Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Dignified Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Timely Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Individual Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Staff and Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quality, Safety and Patient Experience		
The report highlights how older peoples' mental health services can become more sustainable by reducing the number of sites operated out of, reduce the reliance on agency staff and improve the quality of services provided for patients.		
Financial Implications		
The refurbishment of Tonna Hospital will need to be subject to the submission of a business case to Welsh Government for the capital works required to improve the facilities there.		
Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)		
There are no legal implications associated with this report or the plans outlined within it.		
Staffing Implications		
For some staff the changes proposed in the engagement document will result in changes in working arrangements which will be subject to the Organisational Change Policy. There is no risk to the employment of any member of staff.		
Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015)		
The actions outlined in the report support the five ways of working outlined in the Act. Swansea Bay UHB is working collaboratively with partner organisations to improve services provided for older people with mental health needs.		
Report History	-	
Appendices	Appendix A – Engagement Document Appendix B – Engagement Timeline Appendix C – Equality Impact Assessment	