

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Contact: Martin Newton
Tel: 020 8871 6488
e-mail: mnewton@wandsworth.gov.uk

AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER SECTION 100B(4)(b) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE CHAIRMAN IS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS ITEM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING AS A MATTER OF URGENCY BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES. THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE THAT THE COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY KINGSTON HEALTHWATCH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AND TAKEN ACCOUNT OF BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE AT THIS MEETING

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA NO.2 FOR THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST LONDON JOINT MENTAL HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - INPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL (ROOM 145), WANDSWORTH, SW18 2PU ON WEDNESDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 2014 AT 7.00 P.M.

6. Healthwatches' Response to Consultation (Paper 8) (Pages 3 - 4)

To consider the Healthwatches' responses to consultation and any additional comments.

Comments received from Healthwatch Kingston. (Attached)

The Town Hall
Wandsworth
SW18 2PU

PAUL MARTIN
Chief Executive and
Director of Administration

16th December 2014

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Inpatient Mental Health Services in South West London - Healthwatch Kingston response

Healthwatch Kingston has considered the proposals regarding inpatient mental health services in South West London and has worked closely with members of its Mental Health Task Group to form a response. Our main concern is that whatever and wherever the service is provided, the residents of Kingston upon Thames do not lose out.

We believe that the two-site option (Springfield Hospital and Tolworth Hospital) is the option to give the best outcome for the borough of Kingston. We also see that the location of the two sites allows the best coverage of SW London, with Springfield to serve the North and East of the Trust area, and Tolworth to serve the South and West.

Transport to Tolworth is fairly good and it is important that Outpatient services, therapies etc continue to be available within a reasonable distance to all the population in the five boroughs.

It would lead to considerable redevelopment to the site and secure its future as a Centre of Excellence. It would also provide Adult and Children Inpatients easy access to local shops and parks/ green spaces when on leave from the ward.

However, we wish to note the following concerns:

- a) Staffing for the larger resource-hungry facilities. At present time, recruitment/ retention of staff is problematic at Tolworth. The future plans include many more wards so it is essential that adequate staffing is made a priority.
- b) We want to emphasise the importance of improving Psychiatric Liaison Services (personnel) at all involved general hospitals which will be particularly important if there are only two Inpatient Sites.
- c) The Trust must do all it can to de-stigmatise mental health by ensuring that the new Tolworth site is working closely with local residents, and making the site fit in with the local area.
- d) Could any of the redundant sites identified in the Estates Strategy be used to aid transition back to the community or family home from inpatient care? This will offer the patient a 'safe house' which could help patients/ service users prepare to transfer back into independent living - it could be seen as an 'interim recovery model'.

Submitted by Healthwatch Kingston upon Thames' Mental Health Task Group and the Board of Trustees

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