

South East London Transforming Care Partnership - One Year On

The 16/17 Report from South East London Transforming Care Partnership

Introduction

Transforming Care is the national response to the crises at Winterbourne View hospital and other inpatient units for people with learning disabilities or autism. It is a national programme run by the Department of Health, NHS England, Health Education England and other organisations. This programme is for different groups of people. Some people will have a learning disability. Some people will have autism. Some may also have a mental health problem.

The programme will help local councils (who pay for social care services) and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs – NHS organisations who pay for health services for their local area) to make things better.

Too many people are in hospital who don't need to be there and the programme will help get people out and make things better in the community so people get help where they live and not need to go into hospital.

By 'hospital' we mean we mean a specialist hospital or other unit used by people with learning disability, a mental health hospital for adults or children, a specialist ward for people with autism or assessment and treatment units. Some examples in south east London are Atlas House, the National Autism Unit, Oxleas House, Ladywell Unit and Bostall House.

The Transforming Care programme runs for three years, from April 2016 to April 2019. The programme has been running for one year and this report explains what has been done, and what is planned, in south east London. This report is written by people working on the Transforming Care programme for South East London.

What is the South East London Transforming Care Partnership?

The South East London Transforming Care Partnership (TCP) is a group of people from the councils and CCGs of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark, working together and with NHS England Specialised Commissioning.

The councils pay for social care services such as help at home. CCGs pay for health services, including hospitals for some adults and community learning disability teams. NHS England Specialised Commissioning pay for hospital care for children and young people having mental health problems and forensic hospitals for adults who have been sent to hospital through contact with the criminal justice system.

The number of people, who fall under Transforming Care, who are in hospital changes every day as people move in and move out. In May 2017 there are around 95 people from south east London in hospital.

A few people have been in hospital for a long time, more than 3 years. Some people are there for shorter periods to receive treatment.

What we've been working on this year

- Improving everybody's knowledge about Transforming Care.
- Improving our knowledge of the people who might go to hospital when this could be avoided and trying to support them at home.
- Keeping NHS England and the people who run councils and CCGs up to date on what we are doing and what needs to change to make things better.
- Working out how much we spend now and how much we might need to spend in the future.
- Talking to families who have experience using our current services.
- Talking to the people who work in services
- Ways to help the different parts of the mental health service work together to make things better.

Highlights of 2016/ 17

Some things which have gone well in the last year:

- We have appointed an organisation that knows about services for people with learning disabilities and Autism to support the families who have experience using services to make sure we listen to what they have to tell us.
- Last year, we bid for and got some money from NHS England for the first year of the programme. We used some of this money to set up the TCP Forum, for families who have experience using services, and some of it to understand how we work in all six areas and what we spend on people with learning disabilities or Autism when they are unwell.
- We bid for money for the next two years and are one of the first six TCPs in England to receive funding for years 2 and 3 of the programme from NHS England. We are now planning how to best to use this money.
- We know our patients well and how much money we spend on them and we are committed to supporting them in the least restrictive environment and in the community wherever possible.
- We work as a real health and social care partnership across South East London.

What could have been better?

Some work we started in the first year could have been better and we will carry on working on in the remaining two years of the programme:

- Finding a way to help people out of hours.
- Involving more people, particularly people with learning disabilities or autism who have been in hospital.
- Getting hospitals to tell us quicker when people with learning disabilities or Autism are admitted.
- Knowing more about the needs of people in 'special hospitals' who are our responsibility.

What we need to make sure we do next 2 years

- Help hospitals work better with people with learning disabilities and autism.
- Make sure everyone thinks more about people with autism and not just people with a learning disability.
- Know what it costs local authorities and CCGs when people leave hospital.

- Get those who are helping people move out of hospital to share what they know.
- Make sure that staff who work with people in education and in health services know how to spot who needs more help.
- Make things better for young people, so they get the support they need early enough and don't needlessly go into hospital.
- Set up help for people in an emergency at evenings and weekends.
- Produce better complaints information, and work together to support families when things go wrong everywhere.
- Continue to help make sure more people with learning disability get good quality annual health checks.
- Check what is learned about why some people with a learning disability die earlier than expected and make sure that health services check if they could have done something differently.
- Find out what people really think about being in hospital and make hospitals better.
- Look at ways we can work together with all of our residential, supported living, day services and floating support providers to think about training and supporting their staff.