



WIRRAL LINK – RESPONSE TO CHESHIRE & WIRRAL PARTNERSHIP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST QUALITY ACCOUNTS – 2009-2010

Thank you for sending through a copy of the Quality Accounts for Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP).

Firstly, Wirral LINK appreciated the opportunity to comment on the Trust's Quality Accounts 2009/2010. The LINK is aware of the timescales imposed upon the Trust in relation to these Accounts this year however, in future years, would recommend and appreciate ongoing involvement throughout the year in this process, to ensure an informed response can be provided

Wirral LINK agrees that the Trust is widely regarded as a well-performing mental health provider trust with a particularly good record for innovation and for involvement of service users and their carers.

Wirral LINK has visited the refurbished and extended facilities at CWP's Springview hospital in Wirral and believes that the facilities and environment are a commendable example of what commissioners and providers can achieve together.

However, Wirral LINK is starting to realise some of the limitations of the Quality Accounts Performance Targets process, especially as regards responding to the key statement in the Royal College of Psychiatrists' (RCP) Position Statement that "**Ageing is the major global challenge which UK health and social care services will have to address** (particularly since) **two thirds of acute medical beds are occupied by older people, two thirds of whom will have some form of mental disorder**". Wirral LINK has started to analyse how best to respond to this challenge in the context of how to get more effective care for the same or less money and has suggested a three part package to CWP and NHS Wirral :

- a) some form of **Mental Health Intermediate Care Team for Older People** (MHICT) such as the Lancaster model, which both delivers intensive support in their own homes to people who otherwise would have needed expensive inpatient care and which also helps to "*increase the skill and competence of staff in the public, private and voluntary sector to deal with challenging behaviour in a person centred way*" ;
- b) using the RCP initiative **Accreditation of Inpatient Mental Health Services** (AIMS) to improve the consistency and effectiveness of the Acute Care Model first tried by CPW in Wirral and which is the key to achieving savings from

reduction in beds to help facilitate resource transfer from acute care to community care and from adult to older people's mental health services ;
c) improve the effectiveness of the mental health pathway for older people from health through to social care by selecting "best buy" proven innovations from the £60M Department of Health funded initiative **Partnerships for Older People Projects** (POPP).

Wirral LINK looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Trust over the coming year with regard to the Quality Accounts for 2010-2011.

Please confirm safe receipt.