

NHS Wirral/Wirral DASS

Report to Joint Commissioning Group (Older Peoples Services)

An Investment Plan for Mental Health Services for Older People

1. Introduction

NHS Wirral has made available a recurrent annual sum of £500k from April 2009 for the development of services to older people with mental health problems. This will increase to £750k per annum from April 2010.

This paper seeks to describe how this resource will be committed.

2. Context

The investment plan has been developed in the context of the following:

1. The recently developed Strategy for Older People with Mental Health Problems. This is expected to be approved at the meeting of the JCG (OP) on 20th May.
2. The National Dementia Strategy
3. The need to develop new services and realign existing services as a consequence of the above.

3. Development Principles

The subgroup that developed these proposals was governed by the following principles:

1. The need to focus on clear and measurable outcomes for each element of the investment plan
2. The need to promote maximum gain for as wide a cohort of patients and clients as possible
3. The need to promote schemes that facilitate service redesign where appropriate
4. The need for consistency with local and national strategies.
5. The need to ensure that investments are for new services and not to cover displaced funding.
6. The need for direct investment in services on a recurrent basis.
7. The need to ensure that the investment is “protected” to older people with mental health problems

The fundamental need was recognised to be that of early support, early diagnosis with a focus on primary and community care investment.

4. Development Proposals

A number of priority areas for investment, with outline financial allocations are suggested.

These are as follows:

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| 1. Memory Services (Croydon Model) | £250k |
| 2. Training, Support and Staff Development (1° Care) | £50k |
| 3. Intensive Home Support Service | £150k |
| 4. Information, awareness raising | £50k |
| 5. Extension of ADS Carers Support Outreach Services | £??k |
| 6. Extension of 3 rd Sector Innovation Fund | £50k |

The plan includes an element of over commitment to take account of in year slippage.