

Eddie O'Neil
Cheltenham and Tewkesbury PCT

Jenner House
Langley Park Estate
Chippenham
Wilts SN15 1GG

Tel: 01249 858500
Fax: 01249 858501

Date: 8th December 2005
Ref:

Dear Eddie,

Autumn Review Validation Visit 30th November 2005.

This letter aims to summarise feedback and action required by the Gloucestershire Adult Mental Health Local Implementation Team following the meeting with the validation panel on 30th November 2005.

May I start by thanking you and members of the Local Implementation Team for the time that was put into the self-assessment and in preparation for the meeting. I hope you will agree that the meeting was constructive and fruitful. We discussed not only the self-assessment but also a range of significant topics for mental health services and I hope these notes accurately reflect the discussion.

Self Assessment.

We agreed the following changes to the Self Assessment

| Criteria | From | To | Reason |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|--|
| 7. Secure Places | Amber | Green | Fully meets criteria |
| 11. Gender Sensitive services | Red | Amber | Red does give an accurate reflection of level of services |
| 19 CDWs | Green | Amber | More work needed to establish whether black MH team have enough capacity to meet this criteria |

We also discussed the following

| Criteria | Reason |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 3b Primary /secondary interface | Better coordination needed o get to green but unable to identify real barriers |
| 5 Crisis Resolution Services | More work needed to ensure robust coverage and consistency across Glos |
| 6 Early Intervention Services | Better progress needed in this area Needs to link with CAMHs development group Expect to move to green by Dec 2006 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 9. Support Time and Recovery Workers | JCM to confirm with CSIP the criteria for people working in the voluntary sector |
| 24 Governance | LIT could be green with more effort to share information and performance monitoring across the agencies. |
| 32 Advocacy | LIT needs to consider how to develop this service, particularly in the light of the pending MH Bill |
| 39 Dual Diagnosis | Should be able to move to green quickly given the connections between the LIT and the DAT |

Personality Disorder Services

The Local Implementation Team described work that was delivering improvements in services for people with personality disorders. The following general points were noted:

- There is no exclusion of people with personality disorders from mental health services although the ability to treat people was limited by capacity;
- The issue has a much higher profile, and there has been a substantial change in providers attitudes towards the 'client group'
- Much work done in GPT to ensure services are accessible, and that a range of therapies are available

Areas for further development

- Workforce planning and development, developing the competencies to deliver interventions; ensuring appropriate supervision in place etc. CSIP SW to provide support with the Workforce agenda.
- Strengthen links with Gloucester Prison to assist with management of PD within the jail

Mental Health Services for people with a Learning Disability.

The Local Implementation Team recognised that services for this client group were not as well developed as they could be. Lead commissioning arrangements have yet to be agreed between the client groups, and MH services are not yet 'geared up' to respond satisfactorily to this client group. It was however recognised that services 'on the ground' work to the best of their ability to ensure that individuals receive the services they need. The following was agreed for action.

- Quality of care and access to services as set out in the 'Green Light' guidance needs to be addressed with and through the Learning Disability Partnership Board, the LIT, and the Joint Commissioning Board.

CSIP are able to offer support in this area.

Social Inclusion

The LIT described a wide range of initiatives in the Gloucestershire area to take forward the issue of Social Inclusion. It was noted that the well developed Voluntary Sector plays an important part in service delivery. However, the larger strategic picture as developed through LSPs and emerging Local Area Agreements is not an area that the LIT has been involved in.

The following action was agreed

- Gloucestershire LIT needs to focus more on influencing the emerging Local Area Agreements to ensure that all services take the needs of MH service users into account when delivering services.

Themed Review – Choice

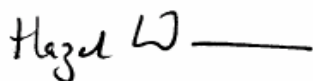
The LIT described the process of delivering the Themed Review and it was obvious that many people had been involved in the development of the document. Clearly these strands now need pulling together into a description that everybody recognises and agrees with. How this work is taken forward will be a key SHA theme for 2006

Overall Assessment

Gloucestershire LIT presents as a capable LIT and this is clearly reflected in the Self Assessment exercise, the quality of debate, and in the quality of service provision across the area. However, many issues continue to be unresolved and the LIT finds itself in the position of having some of the same discussions this year as last year. It is apparent that with some focussed attention, many of the issues could be driven forward without needing to make major structural changes to the services. The LIT also needs to be better at using its considerable expertise to influence agendas over which it does not have direct control - CAMHS in the context of Early Intervention Services, Learning Disability commissioning, and influence on Local Area Agreements are examples that were highlighted.

I would be grateful if you could copy this letter to members of the LIT. Thank you once again to you and the other LIT members for your time.

Best wishes
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hazel W" followed by a horizontal line.

Hazel Watson
Mental Health, Drug Treatment Services,
CAMHS, Learning Disability