

## **Taylor Centre: Service brief update for Southend Community Services Scrutiny Committee**

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The Taylor Centre is one of the main community mental health service resource centres for South Essex partnership University Foundation Trust (SEPT). It is based in the heart of Southend-On-Sea in Queensway House.

The two key services based at the Taylor Centre are:

- Community Mental health Team (CMHT)
- Assertive Outreach Service

**Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs)** are multi-disciplinary, assessment teams designed to provide mental health assessment, care management and treatment for those individuals with more complex and enduring mental health needs who can benefit from specialist interventions. The service is for adults of working age and those over 65 years of age who experience severe and enduring mental health needs which do not require referral to older age mental health services.

The service accepts referrals from GPs, primary care team members, social services and other components of the mental health services e.g. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), forensic services, psychology etc.

**The Assertive Outreach Service** is also provided by a multidisciplinary team. It is a service tailored to meet the needs of people with severe and enduring mental illness and complex needs demonstrated by their inability or unwillingness to engage with generic community mental health services. The service mainly supports those clients already known to the service, who find it difficult to maintain contact with services and as a result have a history of relapse and frequent hospital admissions. Support may be in the form of advice and/ or planned supportive intervention. Intensive support is also offered to clients in hospital to facilitate timely discharge.

Attached to this paper are copies of the referral route for mental health services - emergency, urgent and routine referrals.

The Taylor Centre also currently offers an administration base for the SEPT community services and managers. Recent restructuring of SEPT's administration services has led to plans to move administrative back office functions from the Taylor Centre. We have been assured by SEPT that this will not affect frontline clinical services currently provided from the Taylor Centre.

However, SEPT feel that the premises at the Taylor Centre do not provide the best environment for the provision of these services, and have indicated that in the future they may wish to move clinical services currently provided at the Taylor Centre to another location in central Southend. In view of the vulnerability of this service user group, any proposal to do so would be carefully considered and subject to approval by the PCT. The PCT has been assured by SEPT that it would thoroughly engage with service users, carers and all relevant stakeholders and undertake any appropriate consultations required.

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