

Private & Confidential

Penny Schofield
Acting Senior
Coroner
Coroner's Office
Woodvale

Date: 29th July 2022
Our AC-SA-GR-MM
Ref:

Dear Ms Schofield

We write to provide you with an update as to the Regulation 28 report response we sent in October 2021. As highlighted in our response at the time, following receipt of the Regulation 28 report we collaborated to establish what changes would be needed to address the concerns raised, and how we, as interdependent Social Care, NHS and charitable services, work together to effect improved services.

We acknowledged and understood the concerns [REDACTED] raised, and in our response gave details of some of the current and planned work in regard to our responsibility to work collaboratively to meet the needs of those with co-occurring substance misuse and mental ill-health. In our response we said that after a 6-month period we would provide an update on the planned work. We would like to apologise that we have not been able to provide this in April as we had anticipated, but we hope that this update, though beyond our desired timescale, will provide continued reassurance as to the improvements in the provision of services for those patients in the City of Brighton who are managing co-occurring conditions.

In our original response we noted that NHS Sussex (formerly Brighton and Hove CCG) is in the process of commissioning a new crisis house to provide support to people in a mental health crisis who require 24/7 support and would otherwise be admitted to hospital. We want to update you that the procurement process has completed, the contract has been awarded to Mental Health Matters and the service will start on 01 November 2022. We also noted that Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS Sussex are jointly re-commissioning mental health supported accommodation services with the intention of providing greater flexibility in the model of care. The timeline for this tender is the same as the crisis house, we want to update you that the procurement process has completed, the contract has been awarded to two experienced providers and the services will start on 01 November 2022.

In our original response we noted that Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS Sussex were planning the establishment of a joint group to oversee the strategic implementation of the recommendations and review of the existing co-existing conditions group and implement changes. Our update is that Brighton and Hove, along with East and West Sussex, has been awarded a three-year 'Changing Futures' grant to focus on supporting individuals with multiple disadvantages. To manage this programme and oversee implementation Brighton and Hove City Council and NHS Sussex have created the Brighton & Hove Changing Futures Multiple Disadvantage Transformation Programme - Place Based Steering Group. The aims of the Steering Group are to set the strategic direction for addressing health inequalities for those with multiple disadvantage in Brighton and Hove as follows;

- To use data, intelligence and JSNA to inform programme plans
- To inform our plans to develop and deliver our Population Health Management (PHM) approach and capability at scale to stratify population risk
- To maintain oversight of place-based activities around the transformation of services for individuals experiencing Multiple Disadvantage
- To inform the commissioning and provision of services across the wider health and social care system to tackling health inequality across Brighton and Hove
- To use public engagement insight to inform decision making and ongoing service improvement.

The group will be chaired by Brighton & Hove City Council. The first meeting of the steering group was held in July 2022.

In our original response we noted that NHS Sussex and BHCC will review the existing co-existing conditions group and make changes to include assurance that the group has a direct link in to the commissioning governance structures of NHS Sussex and BHCC and assurance that is an appropriate strategic fit with the proposed new governance structures to implement the JSNA. Our update is that the Co-existing Conditions Steering Group is being redefined and will sit within the Brighton and Hove Changing Futures Multiple Disadvantage Transformation Programme Place Based Steering Group mentioned previously.

In our original response we noted that Brighton and Hove had been awarded national funding to support the homeless and rough sleeping population within the city to tackle underlying mental ill health and reduce rough sleeping in the city. The additional services form part of co-ordinated efforts to ensure that rough sleepers have better access to NHS mental health support – joining up care with existing outreach, accommodation, drug and alcohol and physical healthcare services. We want to provide an update that the expansion of the Mental Health Homeless Team is fully staffed, the expanded roles include a Clinical lead, psychiatrist, psychologist, and a clinical practitioner. The enhanced team allows for increased support to individuals sleeping rough or in emergency accommodation. The psychologist within the team will be facilitating the Complex Risk Management Meeting (CRMM) which will increase coordination efforts between rough sleeping, mental health, substance misuses, and physical health services.

Previously we also set out the principles which underpin SPFT's Co-occurring Substance Use and Mental Health 5-year strategy. Since then, we are pleased to be able to update you on the recruitment of two Dual Diagnosis Workers into SPFT's Assessment and Treatment Services (ATS) in Brighton. This has arisen as a result of additional funding being obtained, through the transforming community care plan, and has resulted in a Dual Diagnosis Worker for both East and West Brighton ATSS. Change Grow Live have made progress integrating the work of their Mental Health Liaison nurses with the newly appointed SPFT Dual Diagnosis nurses. Strategic meetings have taken place between Change Grow Live and SPFT managers and the nurses are working jointly to support some clients with dual diagnosis.

We also committed to ensuring that there is continued information sharing and awareness of all existing and new service provision across the system so that all stakeholders know how to access the provision that is there. Our update is that timely and efficient information sharing and awareness of services is facilitated by a network of groups to which all partners and stakeholders are invited, including the Changing Futures Multiple Disadvantage Steering Group and the emerging trends and harm reduction group. Regular newsletters and email updates are circulated



Change
Grow
Live



to ensure that all staff members across mental health, substance misuse, and homelessness services, including outreach teams, have access to up-to-date information regarding service provision

We committed to ensuring that all new commissioned services for both substance misuse and mental health conditions specifically considers co-existing needs, and our update is that NHS Sussex and the City Council continue to be committed to involving and working with each other in the development of commissioning plans to best meet the needs of people with co-existing needs, and this will be a requirement of all providers of services across mental health and substance misuse. All service developments will be informed by the government guidance on providing better care for people with co-occurring mental health and alcohol/drug use conditions, Better care for people with co-occurring mental health, and alcohol and drug use conditions (publishing.service.gov.uk)

We hope this letter provides you with the detail needed to update you on our joint plans and actions set out in the Regulation 28 report response. If you have any further questions regarding this update please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

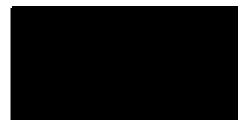
Kind regards



Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council



Chief Nursing Officer
NHS Sussex



Chief Executive
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust



CEO
Change Grow Live