Mental Health and Learning Disability Services in Torbay

Backgrounder

1. Organisations

Devon Partnership NHS Trust (DPT)
- Provides specialist mental health and learning disability services across Devon and Torbay (excluding Plymouth).
- Has a partnership agreement with Torbay Council/Torbay and Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust. Manages the mental health adult social care budget on behalf of Torbay Council, commissioning services on the Council’s behalf.
- Employs 2,500 staff and has an annual turnover of around £130m - £27.3m of which relates to services in South Devon and Torbay.
- Provides a wide range of community mental health services for adults of working age and older people, from assessment and diagnosis onwards.
- Key community service sites in Torbay include Culverhay in Paignton and Waverley House in Torquay (adults), the Chadwell Centre in Paignton (older people) and Cavanna House in Torquay (learning disability).
- Provides inpatient services in three wards at Torbay Hospital - Haytor Unit and Oak Ward (adults) and Beech Ward (older people with needs such as depression and psychosis). Older people with dementia-type needs are supported at the county’s specialist dementia unit at Belvedere Ward at Franklyn Hospital in Exeter. People with learning disability needs who require inpatient care are supported at the Additional Support Unit at Whipton Hospital in Exeter.
- Provides the Depression and Anxiety service, which works as a primary care service to support people with lower levels of need.
- Provides a range of specialist services including a perinatal mental health service (for pregnant women and new mothers), an inpatient eating disorders service (The Haldon in Exeter), a gender dysphoria service (The Laurels in Exeter), veteran support service, liaison and diversion service, street triage and a substance misuse service for people with more severe addiction needs (based at Shrublands in Torquay).
- Provides a range of secure services (primarily for people who have come into contact with the criminal justice system) at Langdon Hospital in Dawlish, including the recently-opened Dewnans Centre, a £25m medium-secure facility.
South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group CCG

- Commissions all health services for South Devon and Torbay, including mental health, learning disability and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

- Conducted a series of listening events in 2013 to understand people’s concerns and priorities for local mental and learning disability services. These have informed the plans for the next year and beyond.

Torbay and Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust

- Integrated health and social care organisation that provides CAMHS services in Torbay and Southern Devon.

2. What is new and working well?

- Corner Retreat Crisis House. Recently commissioned to provide an alternative to hospital for people who require a short spell of intensive care and treatment.

- New Memory Clinic at Torbay Hospital, which provides a one-stop-shop for the early diagnosis of dementia and has won an award from the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

- Enhanced perinatal service for pregnant women and new mothers.

- Street Triage and Liaison Diversion services, run in tandem with the police to provide better support to people with mental health and learning disability needs.

- Enhanced support for veterans.

3. Where are we striving to do more?

- Providing more services locally, meaning that fewer people have to travel outside Torbay and Devon for treatment.

- Finding further alternatives to admission to hospital.

- Reviewing and improving support for people in a crisis and support out-of-hours.

- Reducing waiting times for psychological therapies for people with more severe and complex needs

- Improving the experience of people with a learning disability using health services.