

Sandbrook Short Term Assessment Unit.

Coproduction meeting – 22nd June 2023.

Feedback from participants at the meeting.

Steve Metcalf provided an update – it is hoped to start on site at the end of August 2023 and the group will be invited to attend the 'ground-breaking' ceremony.

The group have looked at outcomes in connection to the building and the care and support outcomes for the provider and for people using the assessment unit.

The purpose of the meeting was to look at:

- Eligibility.
- Referrals process and response times.
- Key Partners and wider support.

Key Partners and wider support.

When the care and support provider is supporting people to move on from the unit, there may be a need to engage with other health/care/support providers (i.e., GP) which may not be their usual providers in their localities or if people haven't had the service before.

It is essential that there should be relationship building with providers, for example, supporting living for transition.

The transition should be done when it is safe to do so.

The point is to prevent failures.

Q. How would the choice of the G.P be made?

A. This will be an individual's choice. They could stay with their current GP as it will only be a temporary move into the short-term assessment unit.

Q. Do G.Ps have a say if they want to take on the person?

A. We will speak to health colleagues about this.

Compatibility is important with those that they are going to be living with to match and integrate – aware of traits of other people.

Consideration of needs.

Steve explained that:

- It will be more of a planned transition.
- They will have a relationship with a social worker, so they can find the best place for them – and be a point of contact for their carers, and families.

There is a need to have a good provider in the first place – pictures of the house and people they are going to live with.

The Care and Support provider must engage with other professionals and organisations and agencies.

They must support people whilst they are in the unit as they will be with other people they haven't met before.

People may also like their own space.

The experience of the STAU will help to know how they would like to live in the future.

There should be no time limit on transition.

It should be the least restrictive option.

When people enter the assessment unit, they may not know what they would like to do and can't make decisions.

Steve explained that he has met with procurement and legal teams, and they want to involve providers by having some market engagement to get some views from providers.

Members of the Co-production Group will be invited to be part of the market engagement.

The group feedback that there is a shortage of ASD providers.

Steve explained that the care and support specification will say that people need to have skills and knowledge of ASD and mental health conditions.

- Partners for the Short-Term Assessment Unit:
- Autism Team Mersey Care.
- Community LD Team.
- Social Work Teams.
- Psychiatrist/Psychologist
- Integrated Care teams.
- Housing (Property Pool Plus).
- Community services/support (Sefton CVS and Community Connectors).
- Sefton Carers Centre.
- Occupational Therapy.
- Dieticians/Medicines Management.
- Employment and training providers.
- Voluntary opportunity providers. (Volunteer Centre).
- Sefton Healthwatch.
- Welfare/benefits.

Eligibility.

Need to consider a flexible approach but also considering legislation and safeguarding.

- Sefton resident (or currently living out of the borough).
- Minimum age is 17 years and 6 months.
- No upper age limit.

It is not always suitable to have two placements – for example, those aged nearly 18 years. The assessment unit can be used to help people prepare for the longer-term. For older residents, social care will assess based on the best needs of the person.

Referral process and wider support.

Will check with care and support providers at the market engagement about:

- What is the reasonable expectation?
- Measurements of performance.

The Co-production Group said they should:

- Meet the person on the day of the request.
- Work within safeguarding parameters.

It was explained that the current process would remain if immediate response at the assessment unit is being arranged.

Q. Will the funding/package be in place?

A. The approval for emergencies will be from senior managers. There will be revenue funding available to support. The contract will have funding for those without a care package.

Q. Is the unit for people who don't have a care package?

A. It will be for both. Some people will have a care package and others won't have a package of care. The package of care will be from the care and support unit. This will be discussed further with the care and support providers.

Date and time of next meeting:

2nd August 1.00 – 3.00pm. This will be a hybrid meeting. It was agreed by the group that daytime meetings are better.