

**Key Points from Discussions with Cathy Kerr**

- Direction of travel makes sense & is consistent with the NSF i.e. move towards more robust community services and less inpatient care
- Document is just a part of the picture and needs to be seen in context with joint health/social care strategy
- Council should be concerned that there is no time for the community services to bed down before the inpatient beds are removed – if the services do not deliver, this could lead to increased social care costs
- Could suggest one area is used as a pilot area to build a body of evidence to support wider roll-out
- Should ask for a clear timeline with steps down the road which are fully evaluated
- Julia Wassell wants to see a mini rehab and crisis unit in Wycombe
- Staff will need to change the way they work – will need to see a workforce development strategy to facilitate this
- There are implications in the proposals for the voluntary sector and users/carers but little about engagement with these sectors or support to them
- In developing a network of opportunities for people (supported living, employment support etc), there are 2 agendas – some things for the Trust, some for the County Council to play – there are separate responsibilities but there must be joining up – clear joint strategy & plans
- The County Council has a role to play in encouraging NHS colleagues to think about carers (supporting and working with to develop services). Carers support has to be underpinned by respite
- Partnerships need to be developed with housing providers to ensure appropriate housing opportunities are available to move people when needed. This should be part of the commissioning strategy.
- Risks for County Council:
  - Need clear financial map – the Trust needs to map out their financial plan & the Trust needs to know where the County Council stands in terms of investing in MH services.
  - The commissioning strategies for both adult social care and older people need to be joined up with BMHT document
  - Workforce development strategy must be produced to skill workforce
  - Carers/users support needs clear definition
  - Risk around ‘slippery shoulder’ of the NHS, with ref to the PCT developments currently happening
  - Practice based commissioning and the need for clear monitoring of how the BMHT proposals are progressing