

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Launch of an 'All Age Place of Safety' within mental health unit**

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) is delighted to announce that the refurbished 'all age place of safety' facility at the Bradgate Mental Health Unit on the Glenfield Hospital site will officially open on Monday 5 June.

Thanks to £500,000 funding from NHS England, the expansion and redevelopment of these facilities has been possible, and the 'place of safety' is now able to accommodate both adults and young people under the age of 18 in mental health crisis while they are waiting for an assessment – normally no longer than 24 hours. People of any age or sex who are detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act will be cared for at the unit when there are concerns for their safety for that of others as a result of their mental health.



**Pictured at the unit L-R: Marie Puckey, clinical duty manager; Helen Perfect, head of service; Tom Wheelband, bed manager at the Bradgate Unit, Steve Walls, clinical duty manager and Paul Howley, matron Belvoir ward**

Previously the unit had two rooms, just for adults. Now, the new, upgraded accommodation provides an adult facility and separate, discreet facilities for young people under the age of 18, with en-suite facilities and access to an outside area. In re-configuring the 'place of safety', LPT has worked closely with approved mental health practitioners (AMHPs) from both Leicester city council and Leicestershire and Rutland county councils, with mental health leads from the police and with colleagues from University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL). The refurbishment is in line with standards set out by the Royal College of Psychiatrists as well as Health Building Standards and feedback from the recent visit by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to LPT.



Helen Perfect, head of service, said: “I am really pleased that all the hard work in redeveloping this facility has now come to fruition, enabling us to respond to feedback from the CQC and provide an appropriate, calm and safe environment for both young people and adults alike. I would like to thank everyone who has supported us in making it happen.”

Julie Voisey, AMHP/Emergency Duty Team lead for Leicester city council added: “The environment is so much better now thanks to the

re-design, and having somewhere to sleep and en-suite facilities help to preserve people’s dignity in challenging circumstances.”

Strategic lead for mental health at UHL, Debra Mitchell said: “Accident and Emergency is not an ideal setting to provide care for people in mental health crisis, and we are pleased to have had the opportunity to work with LPT to develop the facilities at the Bradgate Unit. Both the all age place of safety, and the newly developed CAMHS crisis resolution and home treatment team for young people will ensure under 18s are received into an appropriate environment, lessening some of the pressures on the emergency department.”

LPT has undertaken almost £3m worth of ligature improvement works over the last three years across our mental health facilities, and committed a further £250,000 in 2016-17 year and £500,000 in 2017-18, to address the remaining ligature risks identified by the CQC when they visited us in November 2016.

## Ends

### NOTES TO EDITORS

1. **Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT)** provides community health, mental health and learning disabilities services for the one million people living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff. For more information visit: [www.leicspart.nhs.uk](http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk)
2. **Raising Health** is our registered charity (number 1057361) which raises funds to support LPT’s excellent care initiatives, equipment and innovations which go above and beyond core NHS provision, to enhance the experience of our patients, service users and staff. [www.raisinghealth.org.uk](http://www.raisinghealth.org.uk)
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