Public views on plans for Huntington’s Disease service

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust has published the results of a programme of engagement with the public around plans to relocate its specialist Huntington’s Disease (HD) services.

The Trust, which provides mental health, learning disability and community health services across Leicestershire and Rutland, is proposing to move its HD inpatient and community services from Mill Lodge, in Kegworth, to a new purpose-built facility on the site of Stewart House in Narborough, Leicester.

The Trust already provides mental health rehabilitation inpatient care for adults with complex mental health needs on the Stewart House site.

The background and rationale for the move was set out in an engagement document Proposed change of location for Huntington’s Disease service from Mill Lodge, Kegworth.

Public engagement ran from 17 November and 17 December 2014 and included face to face briefings, open engagement events (in Kegworth, Oakham, Leicester and Narborough), online and printed surveys.

A summary document detailing the feedback from the engagement activity during this period has been published on the LPT website www.leicspart.nhs.uk where it is available for download.

Jules Galbraith, head of learning disability and complex care services for LPT, said: “The majority of those people who provided feedback on the proposals are in support of the planned relocation of services to Narborough. Family members who responded have been unanimously in favour of the move which we believe, if it proceeds, will allow us to provide a quality service which meets the needs both of patients and staff now and into the future.”

Blaby District Council agreed planning consent for the proposal, with some conditions, in February. The LPT Board is expected the consider the full business case at its April meeting. Subject to approval, construction work is expected to start in May 2015 and will take around a year to complete

-end-
NOTES TO EDITORS
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and. Trust serves a population of one million, has a budget in excess of £267 million and employs approximately 5,400 staff.

2. Huntington's Disease is an inherited disease of the brain that damages certain brain cells. Damage to the nerve cells in the brain causes deterioration and gradual loss of function of these areas of the brain. This can affect movement, cognition (perception, awareness, thinking, judgment) and behaviour. Early symptoms can include personality changes, mood swings and unusual behavior, although these are often overlooked and attributed to something else. In the majority of cases, Huntington's Disease is caused by an inherited faulty gene. However, in a small number of cases there is no known family history of the disease. There is currently no cure for Huntington's Disease and its progress cannot be reversed or slowed down. Treatments for Huntington's Disease aim to help improve or maintain skills used in daily living that can deteriorate over time.

3. For more information visit www.leicspart.nhs.uk For further information contact: Sheila Ashton, communications manager, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, Tel: 0116 295 0042, E: sheila.ashton@leicspart.nhs.uk