

HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
2nd November 2016

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

Written Question to the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee received from Mrs Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group

1. With regard to Item 6: Mental Health Rehabilitation Redesign (Report CS17071), this report recommends the closure of 3 out of the 4 current Inpatient Rehabilitation Units used by Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich. Would the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee support the following enquiries being made of Oxleas NHS Trust:
 1. Regarding the current Inpatient Rehabilitation Units:
 - a) How many beds are currently provided in each unit?
 - b) There is no information on current or future demand for inpatient care – why not? What are the figures?
 2. Regarding the proposed closure:
 - a) What are the expected savings from these closures, and the estimated costs of tendering out the replacement services?
 - b) How do we know that there are suitably qualified providers available to take on this work when it is privatised? (Remember Winterbourne View?)
 - c) Why is this report lacking essential financial/critical information?
 3. With regard to the provision of care:
 - a) We repeatedly hear tragic cases reported where patients have desperately needed acute inpatient care, but beds have not been available. Can Oxleas confirm that this will not be the case?
 - b) The covering report/Summary Briefing does not explain what the impact might be on carers and relatives. Please clarify this

Reply:

The Local Authority agrees that it would be helpful in the interests of clarity for Oxleas NHS Trust to provide further information regarding this proposal, including the enquiries raised.