

Admiral Nursing Service Update

The Admiral Nursing service was originally commissioned via Harrow Local Authority and was viewed as a valuable local resource for patients with dementia, their families and carers. The intention was to sustain funding in 2011/12 as a tri-partite arrangement between NHS Harrow, Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust and Harrow Local Authority, however, this was not implemented as the organisations involved wanted to take the opportunity to establish and implement a robust care pathway facilitated through the work of the joint Mental Health Modernisation Board and ensure funding security for the delivery of the future service model

There has been substantial lobbying by Harrow residents led by Mr Neville Hughes to re-establish the Admiral Nursing service since the funding was withdrawn in March 2011. NHS Harrow and the Harrow Local Authority have met with Mr Hughes and have taken the opportunity to hear and discuss his concerns and anxieties regarding the decommissioning of the service. The two organisations are committed to develop an integrated approach to dementia care. Mr Hughes has been invited to participate in the development and shaping of local dementia services and he has requested a further meeting with NHS Harrow to discuss this, which is currently being arranged.

Dementia

Harrow Local Authority and NHS Harrow have committed to the development of an integrated Harrow Dementia strategy and the delivery of an effective care pathway. Work has begun and an action plan is being developed for agreement at the next Dementia sub group. It has been acknowledged that local stakeholder engagement is vital to ensure that the provision meets local needs and the representation by key individuals has been identified on task and finish groups. Part of this work will involve reviewing the requirement for Admiral Nurses to deliver elements of specialist care.

There has as yet been no commitment to creating an Admiral Nurse post/service as it is vital that there is an overview of the entire service which will identify future provision requirements and the way in which these will best meet the needs of the population of Harrow.

NHS Harrow is taking the opportunity to review the current Memory Assessment and Older Peoples Day Hospital services in line with the Mental Health modernisation agenda and the development of the Dementia strategy.

**NHS Support for Social Care: Provision of support for memory services
(Section 256 funding)**

The announcement by the Department of Health that there will be £10m funding support to Social Care via Primary Care Trusts for memory service provision has resulted in a local recurrent funding investment of £41,737. This financial resource has been identified to provide support, advice and information to carers of people with dementia. NHS Harrow and Harrow Local Authority have agreed on an integrated approach to the delivery of this service, which will be via Re-ablement and an integrated provision within the Memory Assessment service delivered by CNWL.