

PRESS RELEASE

23 January 2009

Next steps in the review of services provided at Orchard View

Three local NHS Boards will meet to discuss the future of respite and day care services currently provided for patients at Orchard View, Ham Green, North Somerset, later this month.

A review has been carried out because the NHS is looking to improve respite services for people using the facility and needs to offer service users and carers a choice of service and location. Furthermore, Orchard View's current condition is not fit for its purpose and would not meet registration regulations.

The local NHS recently ran a 21 week public consultation, including discussion and debate with service users and carers, the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHSC), local authority social care departments and others.

The JHSC agreed to support the development of greater choice of respite and day care for people to use, with or without the additional help from a brokerage service, and the development where possible of the Orchard View site for health or social care services that would include an element of respite care.

A project board has met to consider the JHSC's view and also an options appraisal to which service users, staff and carers contributed, as well as the views given during consultation.

The Project Board's conclusion was the same as the JHSC recommendation, that is:

- To recommend a choice of respite care services be offered
- To identify if possible a new provider to develop the Orchard View site for health and social care services including respite care

These recommendations will now be considered by the three Primary Care Trust Boards of North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bristol on the following dates:

- NHS North Somerset: 28 January 2009, 2pm, Waverley House, Clevedon
- NHS South Gloucestershire: 28 January 2009, 2pm, 8 Brook Office Park, Folly Brook Lane, Emerson's Green
- NHS Bristol: 29 January 2009, 9.30am, South Plaza, Bristol

NHS North Somerset has been leading the review. Chief Executive Chris Born said:

“This long-awaited decision will, I hope, mean we can get on with offering a wider range of respite care for the people who use Orchard View.

“The NHS has given a guarantee to all of the current Orchard View service users that they will be offered the same amount of respite care that they currently receive, for as long as they need it.

“We realise that this process has been very challenging for them, their carers and the staff at Orchard View and we thank them for their input into the review and their patience while the decision-making process runs its course.”

NHS North Somerset

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