

Consultation on the future of Mental Health Residential and Respite in Neath Port Talbot



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Accessible Formats

This document is also available in Easy Read and a range of other formats including a Welsh language version and (on request) other languages, large print, Braille, audio tape or CD. To make a request for another format, please contact Leigh Batchelor on Tel 01639 684754 or email l.batchelor@npt.gov.uk

This booklet contains details about a consultation on the Gelligron Residential and Respite Unit. It describes the proposal, explains the background and gives details on how you can put your comments and questions about this issue forward.

At the Social Care Health and Housing Cabinet Board meeting on 31st October 2014, a decision was taken to consult on the proposed decommissioning of the Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit and the relocation of the Respite Unit.

1. Background

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council currently provides Mental Health rehabilitation and respite services through a 6 bed unit based at Gelligron in Pontardawe. The Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit is part of a recovery model and provides 24 hour care and rehabilitation support 7 days a week, 365 days a year, to individuals who experience mental ill health or deterioration.

For the purpose of this consultation the Rehabilitation unit and Respite unit are being treated as two separate and distinct parts.

Rehabilitation service

There are 4 medium stay beds in the Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit which provides 24 hour care and rehabilitation support 7 days a week 365 days a year to individuals who experience mental ill health deterioration. The current recovery model supports individuals who may be leaving hospital (Ward F), or have become mentally unwell within their own homes, or whose carers can no longer care for them. The purpose of Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit is to promote independence and recovery enabling those who have lost skills and/or need the opportunity to regain these skills to be able to do so before moving onto more

independent living. Medium stay beds provide long term care for up to 2 years depending on the service user's level of need and rate of rehabilitation.

Over the past 3 years demand for rehabilitation services in Gelligron has dropped significantly. In particular from April 2014 – July 2014 occupancy levels for the service fell resulting in 84% of unoccupied beds. This high percentage of under occupancy shows that the rehabilitation unit is underused and is not considered able to meet the needs of people recovering from mental illness by care coordinators.

The physical environment of the current rehabilitation and respite/short breaks facilities in Gelligron is not therapeutic, is in need of modernisation and not fit for purpose. The location of the building is not conducive to improving independent living skills as it is located in a rural area at the top of a steep hill and is not serviced by good transport links.

Current Respite/short breaks provision

There are 2 beds available in the unit providing respite/short breaks, operating 365 days a year. These are the only respite facilities for individuals who experience mental ill-health in the Neath Port Talbot area. This facility provides respite/short breaks for service users or carers, or where the home situation has become problematic. When appropriate, service users may also access the short break bed if they experience deterioration in their Mental Health condition.

Attendance records for the respite/short breaks service for the 6 month period between 05/04/14 – 27/09/14 shows that 21 individual service users received a service. Of these, 14 live independently while 7 reside with family. While the facility does allow for the provision of respite/short breaks for service users who live independently it should only do so if their mental health condition deteriorates. The high level of respite provided to those living independently clearly indicates that they are in receipt of services which do not correlate to their level of their assessed needs. Bookings have been made as far ahead as March 2015, which demonstrates an over reliance on the service, which is not compatible with the recovery rehabilitation model.

Currently those in receipt of respite/short break provision do not have access to the planned programme of activities that enhance the reablement of those receiving a rehabilitation service therefore extended stays in respite do not enhance their independent living skills.

2. What are the aims of this consultation?

The aims of the consultation are to:

- Make sure that all interested parties are aware of the Council's proposed changes to Gelligron Rehabilitation and Respite Units
- Provide clear information so that people understand why the changes are needed
- Make sure that people have all the information they need to make an informed decision
- Encourage people to give their views on the proposal (as outlined in section 4)
- Make sure people know how to submit their views
- Collect feedback and consider all relevant information before a final decision is made

3. When will the consultation take place?

The Council will be collecting feedback for 60 days from the 10th November 2014 to 21st January 2015 (see section 6 for how to give your views).

As well as this booklet, Council officers will be meeting with people who currently use services along with a series of public meetings to explain the proposals.

This will be a chance to ask questions, there will also be follow up meetings during the consultation period.

After the consultation ends, all of the feedback will be analysed and a report will be presented to the Council's Members. This report will set out the final proposal and recommendations, taking into account information gathered from the consultation.

4. What is the proposal for Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit?

The lack of referrals for rehabilitation services negates demand for the service and clearly demonstrates that it is underused, therefore it does not provide value for money for NPTCBC. The physical environment of the current rehabilitation and respite/short breaks facilities in Gelligron

- is not therapeutic
- is out dated and in need of modernisation
- not fit for purpose.

This is further compounded by the rural location of the building which is situated on top of a steep hill. The area is not serviced by good transport links which is not conducive to improving independent living skills.

Based on this we propose to decommission the Gelligron Rehabilitation service incrementally over the next financial year. This will allow current service users to complete their rehabilitation and move on to living independently/supported housing.

5. What is the proposal for Gelligron Respite/Short Breaks Unit?

We propose that the respite unit at Gelligron be relocated to the newly built Trem Y Mor facility in Port Talbot. Trem Y Mor is a state of the art 16 bed respite short break/unit located on Port Talbot seafront, which presently caters for individuals with learning disabilities and complex needs.

The design of the Trem Y Mor building lends itself particularly well to offering pan disability respite. It is made up of 4 ensuite pods with separate sleeping and living arrangements. These self-contained units can be used to provide intensive support for specific disabilities should it be required.



The location on the sea front close to all local amenities promotes independent living skills.

Trem Y Mor would also provide much needed respite facilities for those individuals with Physical and Sensory Impairments who currently do not have access to any respite/short break provision. As the facility currently caters for people with complex needs, no further works would need to be undertaken to accommodate those with mental health, physical disabilities and sensory impairment.

6. Questions & Answers on proposals to the Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit?

During the consultation there will be a number of ways in which you can submit questions about this proposal (see Section 6). Here are the answers to some questions you may have:

Q- Why are you looking at decommissioning Gelligron Rehabilitation Unit?

A- The Gelligron rehabilitation unit is outdated and in need of modernisation. There is under occupancy with in the unit due to lack of referrals from care managers which does not provide value for money.

Q- What long term rehabilitation support will people with a mental health condition receive in NPT?

A- If an individual requires rehabilitation support referrals will be made to the OASIS system in the same way. Through this system rehabilitation support will be provided through ABMU and third sector partners.

7. Questions & Answers on proposals to the Gelligron Respite/short breaks Unit?

Q- Why are you looking at relocating the respite/short breaks unit at Gelligron?

A-Relocating the Gelligron Respite/Short break provision would enable those with Mental Health conditions to access facilities in modern surroundings located in an area close to the town/amenities with good transport links, further promoting their living, learning and participation in the community.

Q- Where is Trem Y Mor located?

A- Trem Y Mor is situated on Scarlet Avenue, Sandfields Estate, Port Talbot, SA12 7PH and overlooks Aberavon beach. It is ideally located for access to all local amenities which promotes independent living skills.

Q-How will staff meet the diverse needs of a pan disability service users?

A- Trem Y Mor is a CSSIW regulated building and as such all staff need to be appropriately trained in all disability areas to ensure service delivery.

8. How will the Council collect views and opinions?

There are a number of ways that the Council will be collecting views and opinions throughout this consultation:

- **Face-to-face meetings with service users**
Regular meetings will take place during the consultation. These will provide an opportunity to find out more about the proposal, ask questions and give your views
- **One to one and group meetings with people who use the service along with their families and carers**
Meetings with individuals and their families and carers will take place. Where necessary individual's one to one meeting can be arranged
- **Advocacy**
If required, an independent advocacy service will be made available
- **Display and Suggestion Box**
There will be an information display giving details of the proposal at Gelligron, together with a suggestion box where questions, letters and completed feedback forms can be deposited at Gelligron rehabilitation and respite units, The boxes will be checked regularly and answers to any questions will be displayed on the notice board.
- **Consultation Portal**
You can provide feedback online at Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's consultation portal; Visit: www.npt.gov.uk/haveyoursay to leave your feedback and any comments
- **Meetings with partner agencies and groups/forums**
We will be discussing the proposal at meetings with key partner agencies, older persons' groups/forums and other stakeholders

- **In writing**

You can write to us or complete the Feedback Form at the end of this booklet.

Letters and forms can be put into the suggestion box at Gelligron or can be posted to: Gelligron Consultation

Cimla Hospital

Cimla

Neath

SA11 3SU

or email l.batchelor@npt.gov.uk

9. Explanation of terms used in the context of this booklet

Advocacy is a service, which represents others or helps them to represent themselves. The advocate will put a person's views forward, make sure that they are kept fully informed and that they have all the information they need to make an informed decision or choice.

Partner agencies - these are agencies who work together to provide services, e.g. the Council, National Public Health Service, Local Health Board etc.

Partnership - co-operation between organisations working together to provide a service

A Stakeholder- is a person, group or organisation with a direct interest, involvement, or investment in something, e.g. staff, owners and customers/ service users of a business or service.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Consultation on Gelligron Feedback Form

If you would like to comment on this proposal, please complete this form and post it in the questionnaire box at Gelligron or return in the self-addressed envelope enclosed:

Consultation

Gelligron Consultation
Cimla Hospital
Cilma
Neath
SA11 3SU

If you wish to receive a response to any questions raised on this form please supply your name and address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please indicate your interest in this project (please ✓):

I am a service user

I am related to a service user

I am a carer for a service user

I am a member of staff at the service

Other (please specify) _____

Please insert your comments below (*feel free to include additional sheets if required*):

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to decommission the Gelligron rehabilitation unit?

(Please tick only 1)

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree

Please give your reasons for your answers or provide further comments or suggestions.

(please feel free to include additional sheets if required):

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to relocate Gelligron respite facility to Trem Y Mor?

(Please tick only 1)

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree

Please give your reasons for your answers or provide further comments or suggestions.

(Please feel free to include additional sheets if required):

Equality Questions

Please help us to meet our responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 by telling us a little more about you:

How old are you? *(Please tick one answer)*

16 – 24 25 – 34 35–44

45 – 54 55 – 64 65+

Welsh Language: Fluent speaker and writer Fairly fluent

speaker and writer Fluent speaker Fairly fluent speaker

Learner Little or no knowledge

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes No

If yes please state what disability

Ethnic origin *(please one answer)*

British Irish Any other white background

Indian Bangladeshi Pakistani

Any other Asian background

African Caribbean

Any other Black background

Chinese Any other background

Gender (please one answer)

Male Female Transgender prefer not to say

Religion / Belief (please one answer)

Christian Buddhist Hindu Jewish Muslim

Sikh No religion Prefer not to say Any other religion

Sexual Orientation (please one answer)

Heterosexual Lesbian Gay Bisexual prefer not to say

Nationality (please one answer)

Welsh Scottish English British Irish

prefer not to say Other (please specify) _____