

21st April 2016

Re: Single Place of Safety proposal

Lambeth Council and Lambeth CCG support the proposal to establish a single Place of Safety on the Maudsley Hospital site.

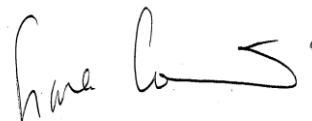
Current waiting times to access s136 assessments are too long leading to delays in accessing appropriate treatment. Staff are currently undertaking the work as part of other roles and may be busy with other people with mental illness or need to travel across the borough. If we establish a single Place of Safety this enables us to secure dedicated capacity and/or share staff across the borough and improve the quality of provision.

We have received assurance from South London & the Maudsley (SLaM) that this will be cost neutral. We fully appreciate and understand Southwark Council concerns about the potential impact on them. We have offered to work with them to resolve these issues through a partnership approach. We think there are significant benefits to people with mental illness and staff, but it would clearly be unfair for the 'host' borough to be disproportionately affected. We are confident that partners can work together to resolve these issues.

Yours faithfully



Moira McGrath
Director of Integrated Commissioning (Adults)
London Borough of Lambeth & NHS Lambeth CCG



Fiona Connolly
Service Director, Adult Social Care
London Borough of Lambeth