

Supporting People:
helping our residents live **independently**



Lambeth Supporting People Service
Supporting Mental Health



Mental Health



The Lambeth Supporting People (SP) Service helps people live in the community by commissioning housing related support across the borough. Our plans for the type of support we want to provide are described in the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy 2005-2010. The summary below is taken from the strategy and is about services for people with mental health problems, including forensic patients. Information about the whole programme is contained in the Executive Summary and detailed information is contained in the full strategy which are available on the Lambeth Website or from the Supporting People Service. Contact details are on the back cover.

Types of Services

This group represents the second highest client group by spend and the third highest by client numbers. More than 500 people are supported by 49 services including high support hostels, shared houses and self contained flats and floating support.

People who use the services

The largest groups of service users are people of Black background (45.1%) and of White background (43.9%). The percentage of clients with mental health problems accessing Lambeth SP mental health services (73.8%) is lower than the average for all London boroughs (93.8%).

Needs of this group

All available information shows that Lambeth has relatively high levels of mental ill-health and particularly high numbers of forensic patients (serious offenders with mental health problems) and people with psychoses. People from BME communities are over-represented in the population of people with mental health problems.¹

Dual diagnosis

Dual diagnosis is often used to describe a diverse group of people with complex needs and a varied range of problems. Most commonly, dual diagnosis is used to define people with mental health and drug/alcohol problems; and mental health problems and learning disabilities.

The support needs of people with mental health problems can fluctuate. Many people have concerns about moving on from their support, particularly when it is tied to their housing. A shift from accommodation-based to floating support services would enable more flexible and responsive services rather than "all or nothing." Resettlement work is very important for people moving on to independent living. People need support during and after the move to prevent tenancy failure.

Chart 1 demonstrates the current position of services for people with mental health problems

SP services 2004/05	People with Mental Health Problems	Mentally Disordered Offenders (MDO)
Total spend	£4,281,475	£269,243
Percentage of total SP spend	18.9%	1.2%
Number of people supported	561	16
Percentage of total SP clients	10.7%	0.3%
Percentage of people local to Lambeth	74%	100%
Commissioning partners	SLAM	PCT, SLAM
Consultation forums	Mental Health Partnership Board Mental Health Housing Subgroup	

1. See Lambeth SP Needs Analysis, 2004 and South East London NHS, Adult Mental Health Needs in Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham, 2002

Consultation and research

A Strategic Relevance Review of services for people with mental health problems was completed in October 2004. The review identified a need to shift local provision from shared houses to self-contained housing through a programme of remodelling and being progressed with providers, including an assessment of the cost implications. The strategic issue of self-contained flats becoming Assured Tenancies with support “floated off” when not required will be addressed.

The issue of move on for service users as their support needs change from high to medium/low level is impacting on Value for Money across the sector and the provision of more floating support is a strategic priority.

Consulting with users

The majority of service users would prefer to live in self-contained accommodation but some are happy with shared accommodation, and see sharing as a first stage in their move to more independent living. Women in shared accommodation stressed the importance of women only accommodation. Many users spoke of isolation and the importance of overcoming it. Help with socialising was the most frequently identified unmet need – particularly by tenants living in self-contained accommodation.

Lambeth SP jointly funds 13 projects with SLAM and these will be rationalised to three models: SLAM funding high-care services, SP funding tenancy support (peripatetic services) and joint commissioning of medium-care services.

There are several other reviews and projects currently in progress which include a recent review of day and community services by joint MH services. A two-year HAZ-funded Mental Health Communication Project commenced in October 2004 to improve communication and procedures between Health, Housing and Social Services. A six-month Community Options pilot funded by MH services is underway to assess the need for assertive support in the community.

Lambeth SP is researching best practice models for the joint planning and commissioning of services for people with mental health problems. The Mental Health Housing Subgroup is jointly chaired by Lambeth SP and Mental Health. The Subgroup has identified two areas as high priorities; cost analysis and benchmarking of different models and mental health accommodation strategy, to improve move on from residential care to supported housing.

The Mental Health Housing Subgroup has identified additional priorities for 2005/06 onwards including developing service models for forensics, provision of culturally appropriate mental health services and models for supported housing; planning and developing new models of housing and support to address problematic behaviour including services for older people with mental health services, mental health and learning disabilities, people with mental health problems and drug/alcohol; and women's services including accommodation services for women discharged from hospital, and services for women escaping domestic violence.

Our vision for 2010

Lambeth SP will remodel services for people with mental health problems based on the findings of the Strategic Relevance Review and subsequent Service Reviews. There will be a shift in provision from shared accommodation-based services to self-contained high quality services, with a consolidation of contracts to improve service delivery, efficiency and Value for Money. We will work with providers to assess the financial impact of remodelling. We will develop services with higher levels of support, including more intensive tenancy support and outreach.

In 2010 we will have a comprehensive map and understanding of local need, and have developed appropriate service models. Lambeth SP will form part of a whole system approach to mental health provision, with clear communication between partners to ensure provision of services for different needs. There will be SP floating support services linked to the Joint Service Centres, and a focus on prevention and early intervention for people with low level mental health support needs.



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The following sections of the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy are available: Executive Summary, Young People & Homeless Families, Domestic Violence, Vulnerable Adults, Mental Health, Older People, People with Disabilities and Socially Excluded Groups.

If you would like more information or have any comments or suggestions about the Lambeth Supporting People Strategy or any Supporting People Service, please contact:

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If you would like this information in large print, braille, audio tape or another language please call 020 7926 7520.

Spanish

Si desea esta información en otro idioma, rogamos nos llame al **020 7926 7520**

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French

Si vous souhaitez ces informations dans une autre langue veuillez nous contacter au **020 7926 7520**

Bengali

এই তথ্য অন্য কোনো ভাষায় আপনার সহযোগন হলে অনুগ্রহ করে কোন কলম **020 7926 7520**

Twi

Se wope saa nikaeboy yi wo kasa foforo mu a fre **020 7926 7520**

Yoruba

Ti e ba fe imoràn yii, ni èdè Òmíràn, èjò, e kàn wà l'ágogo **020 7926 7520**



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