

Southern Health: Adult Forensic Ward Upgrade

Planned Improvements

Southern Health's Adult Forensic Services is planning to undertake a programme of environmental improvements at two of its units - Southfield in Calmore (low secure unit) and Ravenswood House in Fareham (medium secure unit).

These improvements include a conversion of the current flat at Southfield into a seclusion suite and upgrading the de-escalation room on Ashurst Ward at Ravenswood House into a full seclusion suite. These capital works have already commenced and will be due for completion by February 2022.

Following this, the upgrading of all en-suite and communal bathroom facilities at Southfield (along with other essential works) will need to be undertaken – which, unlike the first phase of works, will require patients to temporarily move to another unit to minimise disruption to their care. It is planned that patients on Southfield's Oak Ward (up to a maximum of 10 male patients) will move to Ashurst Ward at Ravenswood House from 1 February 2022 for this to happen.

Impact and Engagement

Impact

Essential environmental updates at Southfield will take place which will provide an improved environment for patients and staff. The updates to the seclusion suite will enable the service to be able to support patients' needs better.

The proposals will affect up to 10 patients and their families/carers, whose care will temporarily move from Calmore in Southampton to Fareham (care will remain in county).

It will also affect 13 staff - consisting of healthcare assistants, staff nurses and charge nurses - who will be relocating their base of work to Ravenswood House to ensure the safe and efficient running of the male low secure ward.

Engagement

Meetings have taken place with affected staff and patients to outline the proposed changes.

A consultation was launched with staff on 11 October 2021 and all affected staff outlined their preferences about the relocation and were offered one-to-one meetings. The consultation was concluded on 8 November 2021 and staff were individually written to on 9 November 2021.

Letters to patients and their carers were also sent at the beginning of November 2021 to outline the proposed plans. This is the first step in a series of engagement activity with them that is planned as the upgrade progresses – which will include face to face meetings and further correspondence.

For further information

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