

Homelessness and Older People

Gayle Jones
S & W Regional Manager
St Mungo's Substance Use Team

Mick Dunne
Project Manager
St Mungo's Chichester Road

St Mungo's

- **Started in Battersea in 1969 with 1 housing project and a soup run**
- **During the 1970's the housing projects expanded.**
- **1981 – First dedicated resettlement team**
- **1984 – First registered care home**
- **1986 – launch of STEPS**

St Mungo's Services

- **1992 – first specialist hostel for mentally ill rough sleepers**
- **1995 – first specialist hostel for rough sleepers who drink heavily**
- **1997 – first specialist hostel for elderly rough sleepers**
- **1998 – first day centres**
- **1999 – Substance Use Team developed**

St Mungo's Services

- **2000 – Outreach and TST started**
- **2001 – Sanctuary Appeal enabled us to continue to provide services for elderly and vulnerable.**
- **Continually expanded the range of services offered to residents, bringing in new and innovative services to meet their complex and changing needs.**

Chichester Road

- **Opened in 1993 for men and women**
- **18 bed spaces for people who have chronic alcohol dependency past / present.**
- **Chichester Rd was expanded in 2001 and now provides 26 bed spaces to vulnerable men and women.**
- **Located in South Kilburn in the borough of Brent.**
- **St Mungo now operates 5 registered care homes across London, 2 mental health / Rehabilitation, 2 elderly / alcohol / Care and 1 mental health / elderly.**

Chichester Road

- **The focus is on long-term provision i.e. “home for life”.**
- **Current age range 52 – 89 years old. Av age – 63.**
- **15 staff, 6 project workers, 2 night staff, 2 care assistants, 1 life skills worker, 1 janitor, 1 cleaner, 1 manager and 1 deputy manager.**
- **Pan London, currently we have residents from 8 different London boroughs.**
- **40% Irish, 35% English, 15% Afro / Caribbean, 10% African.**

Chichester Road clients

- **Referral criteria - we accept clients 50+, who have alcohol dependency past or present, most clients are referred in with multiple needs.**

Currently:

- **90% of clients are active drinkers,**
- **100% have 2 or more physical health needs**
- **50% have organic mental health issues.**
- **On average admission/departure turnover is approx 25% each year.**

Chichester Road approach

- **Harm minimisation approach to the work, i.e. alcohol management, budgeting, appointeeship.**
- **Holistic approach / Social Model - all aspects of the individual assessed and interventions delivered.**
- **Personal centred care approaches underpinned by the Recovery Model.**
- **Health monitoring and support key activity of the home.**
- **Personal care support is another key activity.**

Care Standards

- **Care Standards Act 2000 is the key area of legislation for care homes.**
- **Chichester Rd is registered with the CSCI (Brent & Harrow).**
- **Unannounced inspections throughout the year - our current rating is “good”. You can view our inspection reports by visiting the CSCI website www.csci.org.**
- **The provision of life skills / activity support crucial.**

Substance Use Team

- **Started in 1999 from a number of seconded workers**
- **Developed into a specialist team across our projects**
- **Regionalised in 2007 into N & E and S & W Regions**
- **Line managed by specialist management outside of the project management line.**

Substance Use Team Services

- **Substance Use Workers in most hostel, SIH and rolling shelter provision**

Services include:

- **Assessment and action planning**
- **Specialist keyworking incorporating SFBI & MI**
- **Needle Exchange**
- **On-site prescribing,**
- **Groupwork including Auricular Acupuncture**
- **Liaison with and referrals to community based services and residential treatment.**

Other Substance Use Services

We also have specialist services for:

- **Sex working women**
- **Clients with Dual Diagnosis**
- **Portuguese service users**
- **Older drug and alcohol users**

Changing Patterns of Substance Use

- **Mixed aged hostels leading to long term drinkers using other drugs**
- **Fewer older people with chaotic poly-drug use**
- **Older people more likely to have one or two drugs they use**

Complex Needs of older Substance users

- **Unmet health and social needs**
- **Resistance to use services**
- **Relationship Difficulties**
- **Diagnosed and undiagnosed MH issues**
- **General ageing issues**
- **Resettlement issues**

Resettlement of Older Homeless People

- **“Resettling Older Homeless People” research study**
- **Breakdown of clients needs**
- **Results**
- **Key to success**

Treatment Pathways and Challenges

- **Statutory Responsibility**
- **Care or support?**
- **Independence and decision making**
- **Risk assessment and management**

Recommendations

- **Risk assessments and management**
- **Range of services to meet need - specific accommodation provision**
- **Specific policies for older people**
- **Structured resettlement support**

Recommendations continued

- **Focus on prevention as opposed to crisis management.**
- **Better preparation for clients who enter registered care.**
- **Dual diagnosis provision as standard.**
- **Better planning re assessments when clients are in-patients.**

Further Recommendations

- **Alternative therapies popular among client group.**
- **Provision of counselling / talking therapies as standard.**
- **PCT to provide community training.**
- **No discharge of vulnerable clients without notification.**

Contact details

Gayle Jones

S & W Regional Manager

St Mungo's SUT

gaylej@mungos.org

020 7549 8260

07900 127 459

www.mungos.org

Mick Dunne

Project Manager

Chichester Road

mick.dunne@mungos.org

020 7624 4453

www.mungos.org