

County Mental Health Action Group Meeting on 11th October, 2017
Locality Questions

Locality	Questions
Ashford	None
Canterbury	None
Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley	None
Dover, Deal & Shepway	<p><i>1. Since 2015, readmissions into hospital for mental health problems have risen by 5%. Could Healthwatch investigate this statistic and its possible causes, including any reductions in the length of hospital stay, the robustness of community support once discharged, or stress associated with the introduction of Personal Independence Payments (PIP)?</i></p> <p><i>2. The current Housing Allocation Policy in Kent classifies those leaving Mental Health Supported Housing as a Band B housing need. As a result, MHAG members report that subsequent housing is often either unavailable or unsuitable, leading to residents unnecessarily remaining in supported housing. This causes residents to become institutionalised and leads to bed blocking, whereby beds are not available in Supported Housing for those leaving hospital. Would KCC consider amending the current Housing Allocation Policy, so that those leaving Mental Health Supported Housing are included in Band A? This could give residents better access to Housing Association and Council properties.</i></p>
Maidstone Weald	None
South West Kent	None
Swale	<i>How is mental health training for GPs being addressed and funded across Kent?</i>
Thanet	<i>What is being done about staffing issues surrounding depot injections at Thanet CMHT?</i>