Safe Havens - New

We are working to develop 3 safe havens in east Kent, one project is our own project and two others are funded by Kent and Medway STP. A safe haven is a place anyone can go to if they are struggling with their mental health or feel that they need some additional support. The safe havens will be open when traditional services are closed. Some of the key features of a safe haven include:

1. open every evening and weekends, 365 days per year (including public holidays)
2. open door policy – there for anyone that needs it
3. an assessment of need for everyone attending
4. active liaison with organisations that can provide help if required.

The venues for the safe havens are: Folkestone and Thanet and another to be confirmed, these are due to open in 2020.

Peer Support Crisis Services - Expansion

We are working to develop more peer support crisis services. These services will be based on an existing model that has been running in Canterbury for four years. The service will be delivered by a local mental health charity and will be in Thanet and Dover. This service will be by referral only from Community Mental Health Teams, GPs and the Safe Havens.

Wellbeing Cafes - Expansion

Wellbeing cafes are places where people can go to get support, feel less isolated and reduce the risk of a mental health crisis at times at weekends when traditional services are closed. We are looking to expand the current resource in Ashford and to create an additional new wellbeing café in Ramsgate.

Learning Disability and Autism training for health and care staff – Government Response

The Government has just published ‘Right to be heard’: The Government’s response to the consultation on learning disability and autism training for health and care staff. To see the report please go to:
Consultation on Community Based Wellbeing Services

Kent County Council (KCC) is currently seeking people’s views on the future of community-based wellbeing services for older people, adults living with dementia, physical disabilities or sensory impairments. This consultation closes at midnight on 1st December 2019. Visit www.kent.gov.uk/wellbeingconsultation to find out more and to have your say.

Consultation on Council Homes in East Kent

Council homes in East Kent are currently looked after by East Kent Housing on behalf of Canterbury City Council, Dover District Council, Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Thanet District Council. Earlier this year the councils discovered serious problems with a range of safety checks at some properties looked after by East Kent Housing. To make sure the same thing does not happen again, they have asked a range of experts to look into what went wrong. They have also looked at how we should manage our council housing in the future. They have come up with four options:

Option 1: Keep East Kent Housing and improve the way they work
Option 2: Close East Kent Housing and create a team at each council to look after homes
Option 3: Close East Kent Housing and work with nearby councils to look after homes
Option 4: Ask an outside organisation such as a housing association to look after homes

They want to know what you think about our proposal and would ask you to spend a couple of minutes taking part in our survey. To have your say go to:

- www.canterbury.gov.uk/consultations
- www.dover.gov.uk/consultation
- www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/consultations
- www.thanet.gov.uk/consultations

Consultation closes on Friday 20 December and the results will be reported to councillors early next year before they make any final decisions. If you’d like any further information, please contact us at consultations@canterbury.gov.uk or on 01227 868 580. This is because Canterbury City Council is co-ordinating the consultation on behalf of all four councils in East Kent.

Local Mental Health Information

For information and about support to help you improve your mental health and wellbeing please go to your local CCG Mental Health pages:

Ashford CCG | Canterbury CCG | South Kent Coast CCG | Thanet CCG

If you have any additional suggestions or ideas for your local mental health pages please email Louise or Sarah at the email below, thank you.
The East Kent Mental Health Commissioning Team would like to keep in touch with you about our work in East Kent and opportunities to get involved in projects and have your say. We will never sell your data and will keep your details safe and secure. If you want to discontinue receiving emails from the East Kent Mental Health Commissioning Team please reply to this email or contact ekmentalhealth.commissioning@nhs.net. You can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting the East Kent Mental Health Commissioning Team. To see your local CCGs Privacy Policy go to Ashford | Canterbury | South Kent Coast | Thanet.