

East Kent Liaison Psychiatry Service

KMPT Liaison Psychiatry Services are available at QEQM, Kent & Canterbury and William Harvey Hospitals. Our current commissioned hours are 8am – 4pm, 7 days per week. We hope to be in a position to extend this to an 8am – 8pm service from May 2016, pending approval from the CCG. Outside of the operational hours the Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment (CRHT) Team provide a crisis response to the Emergency Departments. We accept referrals from all areas of the hospitals, including the Emergency Departments and inpatient wards. Anyone aged 18 or over can be referred to the service for assessment. Service users are referred following medical review and a decision by the East Kent Hospitals staff that mental health input is required. Each team has 5 Liaison Psychiatry Practitioners (Mental Health Nurses, Occupational Therapists or Social Workers), a Team Manager and a Consultant Psychiatrist based on site.

The number of referrals received by each team varies month on month. From April 2015 to January 2016 the following were received per month:

- Ashford (William Harvey) – Between 57 and 92 Emergency Department referrals and between 31 and 39 inpatient referrals
- Canterbury (Kent & Canterbury) – Between 55 and 81 Emergency Department referrals and between 15 and 41 inpatient referrals
- Thanet (Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother) – Between 46 and 94 Emergency Department referrals and between 34 and 48 inpatient referrals

Our commissioned response times are 2 hours for urgent (mostly Emergency Department) referrals and 2 working days for routine (mostly inpatient) referrals.