

Seeking your views

Camden Council are consulting with residents and providers to seek your views on potential changes to the mental health accommodation pathway in the borough. This consultation will run from 25th January to midnight 10th March 2019.

You must be a Camden resident aged over 18 years to respond or be a provider of supported living services in the borough. If you would like this consultation document in an alternative format please contact morelda.nanton@camden.gov.uk.

The Camden Vision

Together we want to make Camden a better borough – a place where everyone has a chance to succeed, where nobody gets left behind, and where everybody has a voice.

[Camden 2025](#) is the new community vision for the borough, developed from conversations with our communities about what they want Camden to be like in the year 2025. It sets out five key ambitions for the borough, and is a call to action for everyone who lives, works or studies in Camden.

The Camden 2025 ambitions are:

- In 2025, everyone in Camden should have a place they call home.
- In 2025, growth in Camden should be strong and inclusive – everyone should be able to access the work that is right for them.
- In 2025, Camden should be safe, strong and open, and everyone should be able to contribute to their community.
- Camden should be a clean, vibrant and sustainable place.
- In 2025, everyone in Camden should be able to live a healthy, independent life.

Making a real impact will involve changing individual and organisational behaviours, and require the creativity, ambition, and expertise of everyone in Camden working together. As with other work streams in Camden that are using a strength based approach in Supporting People and Connecting Communities, we would like Supported Accommodation providers to use a similar approach with residents. This would allow residents to be in the least restrictive setting possible within the pathway and move to, their own home without unnecessary delay.

Our Resources

Camden Council has a medium term financial strategy which sets the direction of travel for our financial decision making over the next 3 years. We must focus our resources on the greatest needs for our local population in order to achieve financial stability and realise the ambition of Camden 2025. Since 2010 the council has had its funding reduced by 54%, equating to £169m over the last 8 years. Over the next 3 years we must save a further £35-40m.

For services provided as part of the Mental Health Supported Accommodation Pathway, this translates into a savings target of about 10% of the total budget, approximately £350,000 over the next three years.

Proposals to Redesign the Mental Health Supported Accommodation Pathway

The Council is seeking your views on its proposal to redesign and improve the Mental Health Supported Accommodation Pathway. Many of the services in the pathway have remained unchanged for several years and yet the strategy for mental health has changed considerably during this time.

With our partners, Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust (C&I) we are taking much more of a prevention and early intervention approach, strengthening community services to avoid people going into hospital, support them to stay well at home and when they do have to go into hospital ensure that their stay is as short as possible. As part of Camden 2025 we want to ensure that people can live as independently as possible and have a place they can call home, which is safe and secure.

What is the Accommodation Pathway?

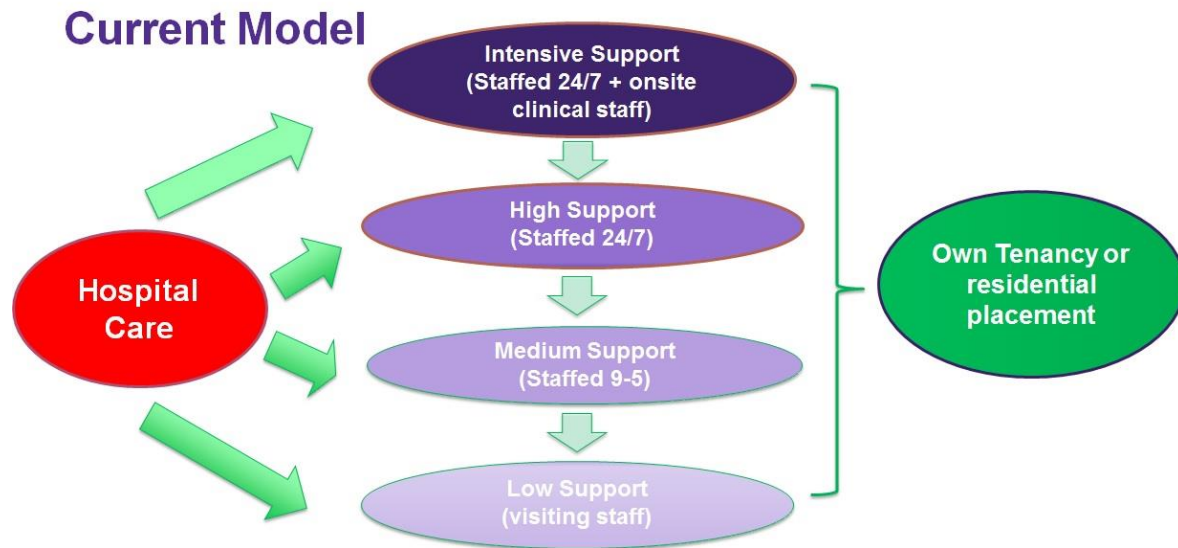
The Mental Health Supported Accommodation Pathway provides services for those people who would not be able to live on their own immediately after being discharged from hospital. The pathway consists of four levels: intensive, high, medium and low. Each level offers progressively more independence to residents as they develop skills that allow independent living.

Though recovery outcomes are good, movement through to more independent accommodation is very variable. The average length of stay across the pathway is 3.8 years, which is longer than the expected two-year length of stay. This is an issue, as it reduces flow, through the system and can have an impact on people being discharged from hospital in a timely manner. Move-on varies across projects, with only a few providers achieving the 30 per cent target. Evidence suggests there is less demand for low support provision in its current configuration. In addition to this, the needs of several residents, currently in the pathway, would be better met in a different setting (e.g. sheltered accommodation, nursing care).

Current Accommodation Pathway

The current pathway is depicted in the diagram below. There are four different levels of supported living from hospital into tenancies or residential placements. This means that residents who are placed in intensive support after a stay in hospital will most likely have to move accommodation four times in a short period of time before they finally settle in their own accommodation.

Overall the Council commissions 231 units in the supported living pathway.



Changes being proposed to the accommodation pathway?

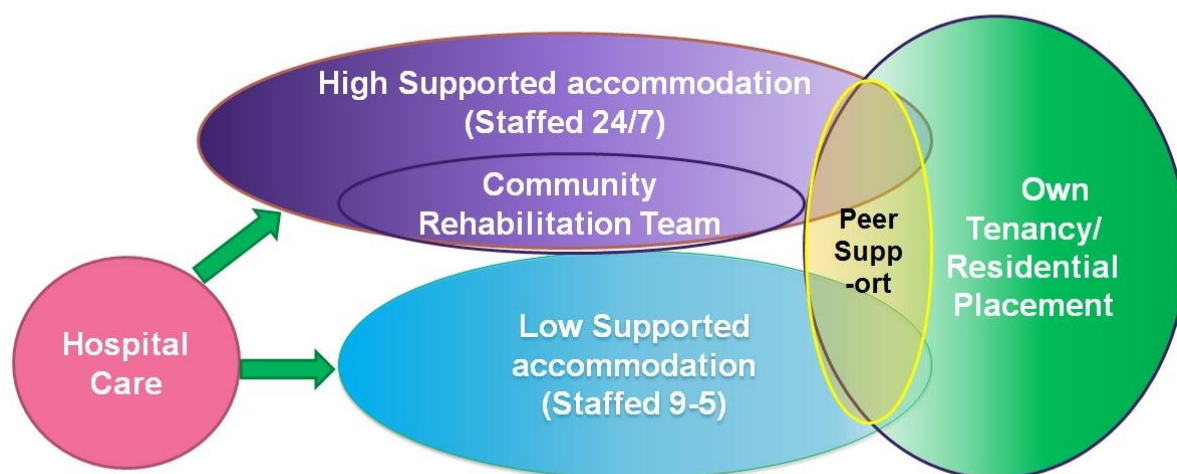
Camden Council is proposing to redesign the mental health supported accommodation pathway with the aim that it:

- better suits the needs of residents and offers the best possible chance of recovery
- reduces the number of physical moves residents must make on their path to recovery
- makes better use of assistive technology, such as smart phones and self-care equipment can often help people in their daily life, with:
 - Memory - Reminders / Schedulers / Task Management
 - Health Behaviours - Sleep / Diet monitoring
 - Stress - Breathing / Pulse monitoring
- reduces the number of empty places in the pathway
- reduces the number of supported living units by a minimum of 30, in order to meet the savings targets highlighted under 'Our Resources', above
- reduces the cost while improving the quality of provision
- reduces the time that residents spend in supporting living accommodation and moving people into secure and safe independent housing

To support the redesign of the pathway we are expanding and improving our mental health community services. For example we have just introduced a community mental health rehabilitation team, whose role will be to provide support to residents in the accommodation pathway ensuring they are equipped with the skills required to move onto independent living and/or prevent them from going back into hospital.

We have been discussing the possible redesign to the pathway with service providers since summer 2018. In addition to discussions at regular meetings with service providers, we have met with 18 residents and 47 staff members at various supported accommodation projects to discuss details of the model. Feedback and comments from these meetings have been incorporated in proposed model A.

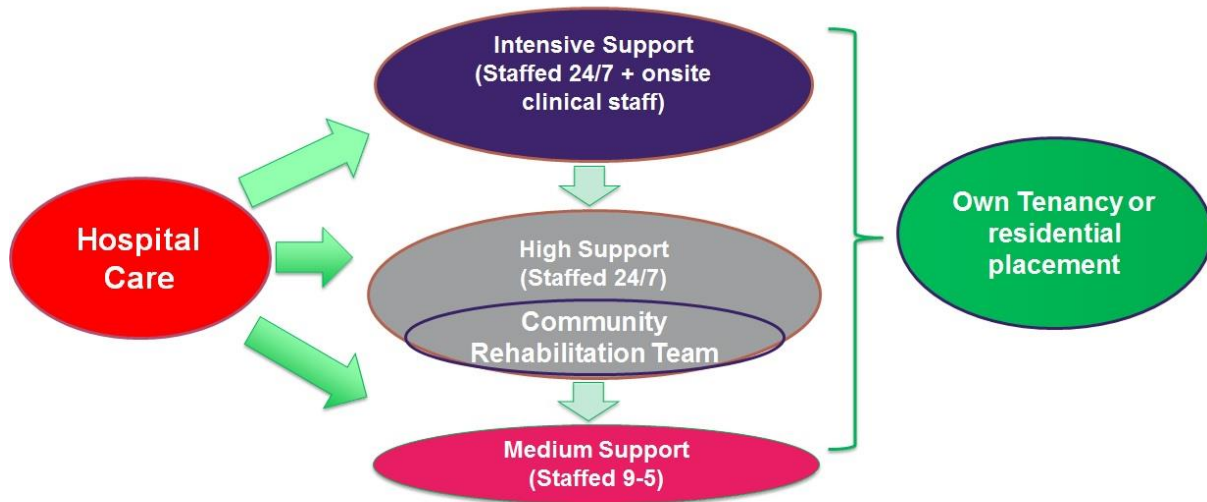
Proposed Model A



The most significant change in this model is a reduction in the number of levels in the pathway from four to two, which will ensure that residents don't have to move from one project to another as they get better. The proposed pathway will consist of two levels: high support, with staff available around the clock; and low support with staff available 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday (as well as weekends, if needed).

The service redesign will also include a reduction in the number of places in the pathway by approximately 12 per cent. This is in recognition of the fact that some of the residents currently in the pathway need some form of alternative service, such as residential or nursing care. Some of the savings associated with the reduction in projects will be used to develop a **peer support service** that will support residents through transition from supported accommodation to more independent living.

Possible Model B



Possible Model B:

Another possible change would be to stop commissioning Low Support Services, which would reduce the number of places in the pathway by 30 (12%). We would increase our offer of floating support, which will mean that when a resident is discharged from the pathway into their own home, they will have support to maintain their tenancy and prevent them from relapse. Residents in the pathway would also benefit from services provided by the Community Rehab Team.

No Change:

The third option would be, not to make any changes at all and to contract the services in the Mental Health Supported Accommodation Pathway in exactly the same way as we have been doing so in the past.

The changes we are suggesting are based on an analysis of service data as well as feedback from some of our service providers. We are interested to hear your views on the options presented above and to hear any other views that you may have, which may include further options that we have not considered.

We are particularly interested in the views of people who have used supported accommodation services in Camden as well as the staff who provide the service.

Have you say on this consultation by completing the online survey by **midnight 10th March 2019**.

We are holding two consultation events at the Crowndale Centre for anyone interested in talking to commissioners to find out more about the proposal and the timetable for key decisions.

Paper copies of the consultation information and response form will also be available at these meetings.

The events will be held at;

[Crowndale Centre](#)
[218 Eversholt St,](#)
[Kings Cross,](#)
[London NW1 1BD](#)

01 February 2019 2pm – 5pm and
22 February 2019 1pm – 4pm

