



Ref: ATU2/JM  
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Dear patient/carer

## **The redesign of local Assessment and Treatment Units (ATU's)**

You may remember that we wrote to you in September 2020 to ask for your views on changes we were thinking of putting in place for Assessment and Treatment Units in West Yorkshire.

If you responded to this request we want to thank you. We also want to tell you what people said about our plans to move from three units to two in Bradford and Wakefield working as one high quality service.

- The majority of people with lived experience or their carers felt that the change would either be a good idea or not affect them
- The small number of people who felt it would affect them in a negative way were mainly concerned about having to travel further
- We found that it was challenging to engage with people with lived experience of the ATUs. This was partly because of the pandemic and that visiting was not allowed at the units and partly because those people were very poorly





We also engaged with staff from the units and community services

- Some staff in Leeds had concerns about the loss of a unit at Leeds. This was mainly from the local authority
- Those responding to the staff survey gave equal positive and negative comments to the change
- Staff felt that the model would bring better coordination and sharing of good practice and training.
- The staff who were concerned felt that carers of Leeds service users might have to travel further or not leaving service users isolated
- Staff had lots of ideas for how to help the implementation of plans and felt that good communication would be important
- Some staff wanted to be involved more in the future.

As a result of the engagement West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership have agreed to go ahead with plans for the two units. They are in the process of continuing to communicate and engage with staff, especially local authority colleagues in Leeds.

The full engagement report is available [here](#). Once again thank you for your time if you completed the questionnaire. More information about Assessment and Treatment Units can be found [here](#).

Kind regards

**Andy Weir**

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Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

