Mainstreaming Mental Health engagement period: key issues / areas of feedback and response

Key Issues / Areas of Feedback		Response / What aspect of the proposals has the feedback helped to shape?
1.	Need to improve community provision and resources	Strengthen existing resources, and develop new ones, particularly at primary care level, to enable the majority of mental health care to be provided by primary care without the need to be referred to the specialist services of AWP. Also to provide some services within primary care when it is appropriate.
2.	Less time should be spent in hospital	A re-modelling of in-patient services is proposed to shorten assessment and treatment times allowing the focus to be on community services.
3.	How 'local' can hospital beds be? a) as local as possible on isolated wards; b) several wards clustered together where care, quality and 'economy of scale' issues are addressed (with resulting 'transport' issues for relatives and carers)?	'Local' refers to long-term provision. It is better; a) to provide additional alternatives to hospital admission; b) to bring in-patients together where appropriate and specialist resources can be concentrated (and it can be staffed effectively); c) to have shorter hospital admission periods; and d) to move people more quickly back into the community, or into 'local' residential/nursing homes when needed.
4.	Increased availability of residential and nursing care homes	Encouragement to the independent sector to build more.
5.	Praise for the quality of care provided by AWP	AWP is committed to improving the quality of all services that it provides.
6.	The difficulty of providing in-patient care to older people who have both severe mental health (incl dementia) and physical health needs	AWP and the PCTs are proposing a joined-up and dual approach to their health care needs (shared beds).
7.	Improved training and provision for all professional and 'care' staff about dementia and other mental health conditions	More joined-up services and planning across all health services.
8.	Don't forget the voluntary sector	Greater recognition of and more resources to be given to the voluntary sector.
9.	Need for a telephone helpline	Except for those who are currently receiving specialist services (who are provided for), this could be commissioned separately by WCC or the PCTs.
10	. How appropriate is it for AWP to provide Day Care?	It isn't, and much of the so-called Day Hospital care is currently Day Care (a social care service).