

Home Treatment Service (Dementia)

A Specialist Mental Health
Intermediate Care Service for People
with Dementia in Eastern and Coastal
Kent

- To provide specialist Mental Health Intermediate Care for people with dementia and their carers who are registered with CMHTOP
- Working Mon – Friday. Not Crisis service.

Localities:

- 6 Home Treatment Teams across East Kent, complimenting the local CMHTOP
- Canterbury, Ashford, Sittingbourne, Thanet, Dover and Folkestone

Aim

To bring about the most positive outcome for clients, their families and/or paid carers with a minimum of disruption and distress

- **To work with potential complex transitions addressing carer and client needs, particularly where a breakdown in care is imminent.**
 - **To enable people to live where they would like/most enabling environment / least restrictive and preferably one of their choosing**
 - **Promote timely discharge from acute mental health beds**
 - **Prevent care breakdown thereby reducing avoidable admission to acute mental health beds, “eviction” or premature admission to long term care**
 - **To improve quality of life for client and carers**

What is the work about?

At its core, much of the HTS work is about carefully assessing and addressing a whole set of needs, which are often distressing, severe and multiple.

Key Feature

Person Centred Care philosophy (Kitwood) and consistent with NSF (Older People), NICE and Dementia Strategy.

Practice is characterised by:

- Focussed, time limited interventions of up to 12 weeks
- Flexible, intensive involvement requiring the full multi-disciplinary team.
- Creative/positive risk taking/risk management and advocacy (MCA)
- Augmentation, not replacement, of Mental Health and Social Care Services.
- Working with carers and families
- Reflective practice and systematic evaluation of case work

Who

The service relies upon multi-disciplinary team work. This is the key to assessment and intervention - a mix of skills and staff;

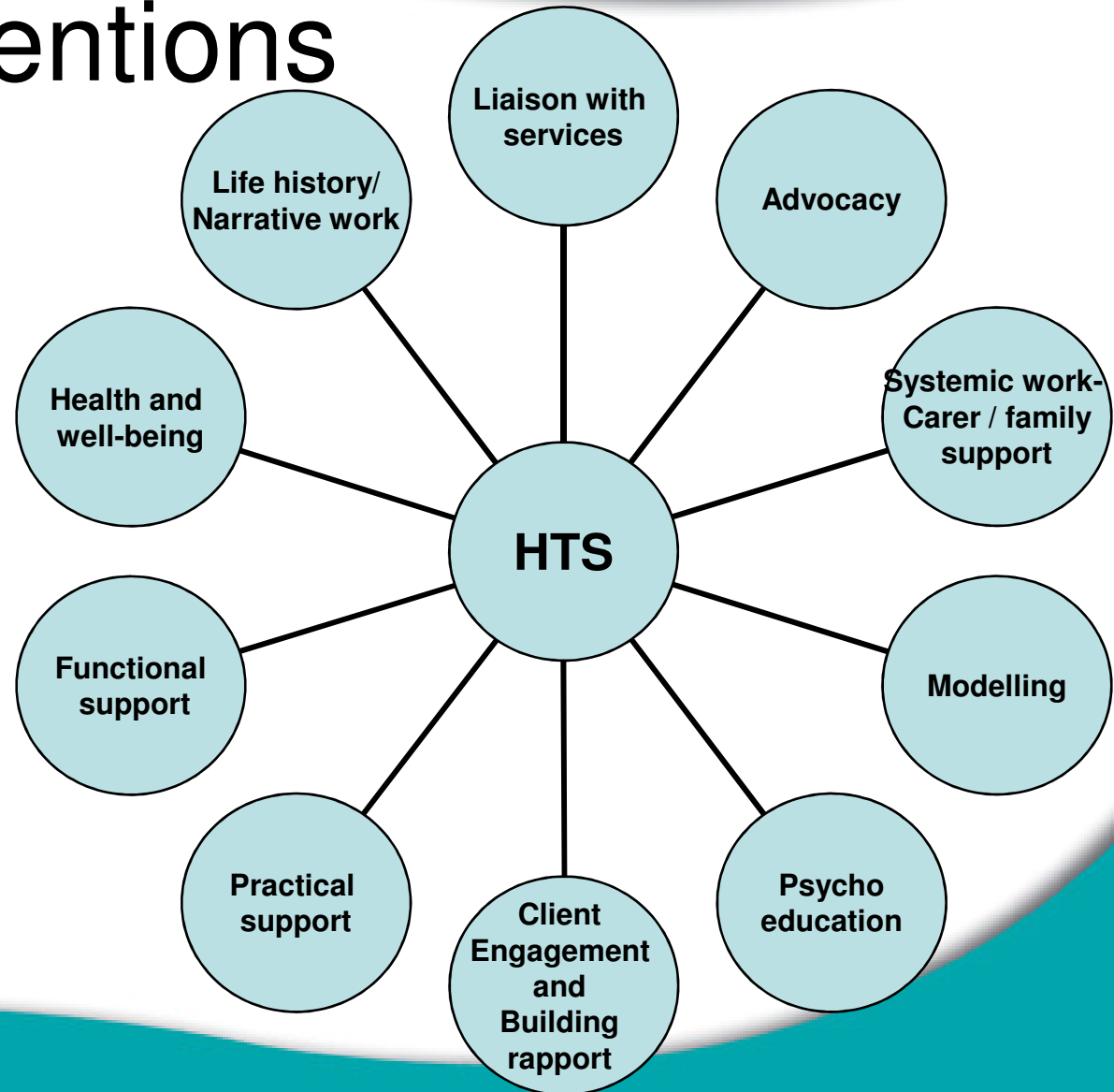
- Occupational Therapy
- Mental Health Nursing
- Psychology
- Support Worker

We operate a shared caseload

Assessment

- Holistic and generic approach
- Camberwell Assessment of Need in the Elderly (CANE)
- Dementia Care Mapping (DCM)
- Client narrative, Carer and Family involvement
- Functional assessment

Interventions



CASE ILLUSTRATIONS

Further information about Home Treatment (Dementia) service

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Evaluation of service

Culverwell A, Milne A, Mikelyte R (2010) Intermediate care for people with dementia: evaluating the role and effectiveness of a specialist home treatment service. *Journal of Dementia Care.* (in press)

Views from users of service - 2008

“I think I’d have fallen to pieces. Who else would have taken the time to do the life history? They’ve done a lot for me mentally; it’s good to know that someone cares even when they’re not around all the time.”

“They saw her as a person for who she was, no preconceived ideas and with a knowledge of the dementia, but not thinking about the dementia like we do as the family.”

“Very sensitive, very professional. All round really good job and we have demanded a lot of them.”

“It was a multi-disciplinary approach, giving different thoughts to problems to give a solution. This was improved further by working with the care manager.”