

## **World-Class Medium Secure Psychiatric Facility Opening in Maghull.**

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust's new £53 million state-of-the-art Rowan View Medium Secure Unit was handed over by the builders Kier Construction to Mersey Care in August and is preparing to accept its first service users in November 2020. It will replace the soon to be decommissioned Scott Clinic Medium Secure Unit at Rainhill.

The new Rowan View Unit is situated near to Ashworth High Secure Hospital (228 Patients and approximately 1700 staff) and the proposed £33 million low secure learning disabilities unit (40 bed), in the site collectively known as Maghull Health Park, representing Maghull's largest employer.

Rowan View comprises of 123 beds over eight wards (approximately 300-400 staff): Female Learning Disability (Delamere Ward); Male Learning Disability (Astley and Birkdale Wards); Female Mental Illness (Eden); Male Mental Illness (Thornton, Rivington, Vale and Marbury Wards).

The unit provides:

- An environment that will promote the integration of physical and mental wellbeing
- A social hub incorporating a café, therapy rooms, multi faith room, sports hall, gymnasium, music rooms, skills for life room, IT suite, bank and a physical health suite
- Use of therapeutic technology for the benefit of patients and staff including virtual reality and avatar therapy
- Art and design created by expert designers working closely with service users to enhance the site, its reception and corridors and its therapeutic spaces
- Flower gardens and green spaces
- Built to excellent environmental standards.

Following an invitation from Mersey Care to Maghull Town Council, Cllr Ross Ferguson and Cllr Dr Frank Sharp, (retirees from Ashworth Hospital) had the privilege of the visiting the new unit and were both astounded by the world leading quality of this secure therapeutic environment.

Cllr Ross Ferguson stated that "I can honestly say that I was overwhelmingly impressed with the building, its design, the build quality, the facilities provided for both Service Users and Staff and the thoughtful and innovative use of cutting-edge technology. In my opinion, Mersey Care NHS Trust has created the UK's Flagship MSU with Rowan View".

Cllr Frank Sharp added, "The incredible attention to detail that Rowan View has adhered to has created an environment that sets a worldwide benchmark. We feel sure that with a balance of appropriately skilled staff across all disciplines that Rowan View will be considered a 'centre of excellence' for the challenging needs of its service users. During our visit Maghull Town Council and Mersey Care expressed a mutual desire to maintain a continued supportive dialogue to develop strong and meaningful community links and understanding going forward. We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate everyone involved in the creation of this facility and convey our best wishes for the future". Interestingly, Kier Construction has now

moved on to another exciting project involving the creation of the prestigious Shakespeare Theatre at Prescott.

The two short video links provide:

- (1) The clinician's feedback and a portrait of the build.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pq\\_hTN62tbY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pq_hTN62tbY),
- (2) A stunning glimpse of the environment we visited.  
<https://youtu.be/7JpKuzmNuXI>

