dimensions

A plan to limit ATU admissions and accelerate discharges

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Proving life can get better

A bit about us

Jordan Smith - Advocacy Lead

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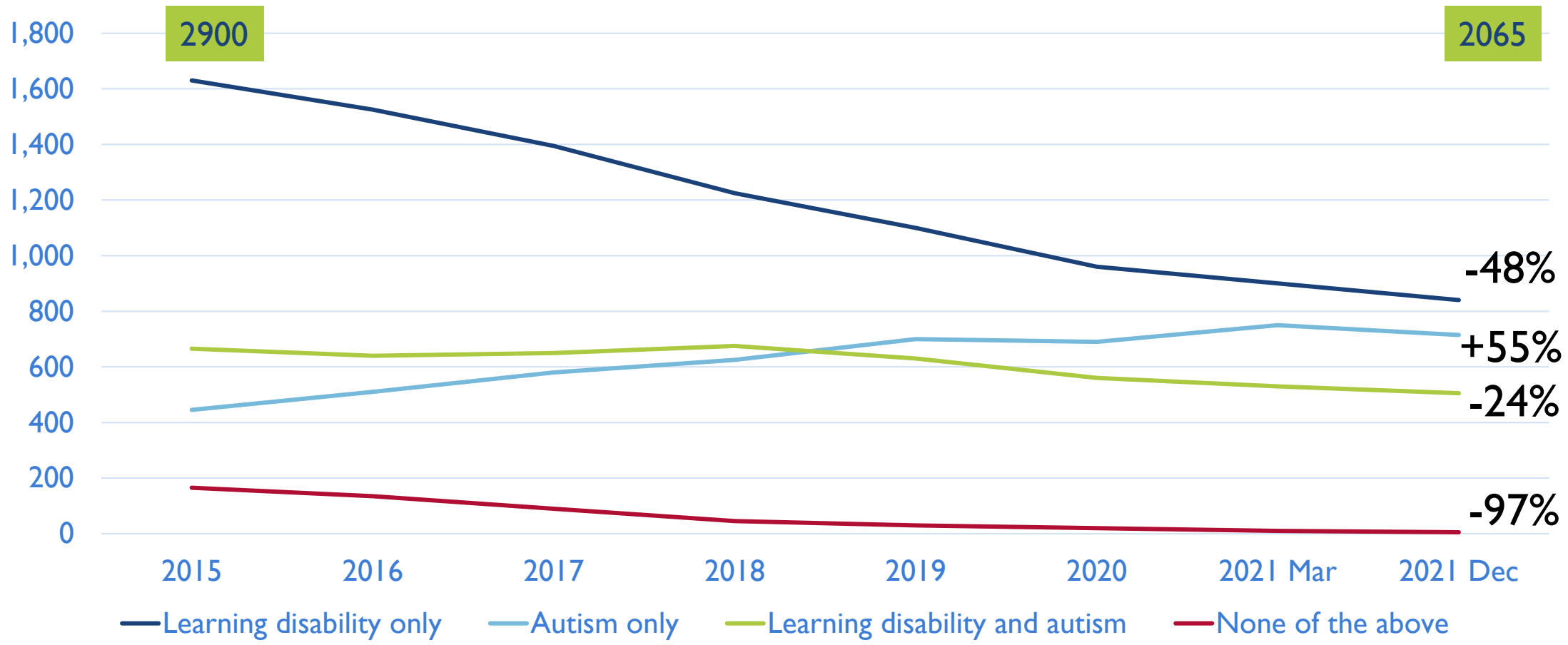
Building the Right Support (2015)

- "Overall, 35% - 50% of inpatient provision will be closing nationally with alternative care provided in the community…"
- "In three years we would expect to need hospital care for only 1,300-1,700 people where now we cater for 2,600..."
- 2019 >>>>>>>> 2024!

Building the Right Support (2015)

- More than 2000 people spent last Christmas locked up in an ATU.
- For 6 in 10 of those, this was at least the second consecutive locked-up Christmas.
- 100 people have spent more than 10 years locked up in an ATU.

Inpatients by assessed need



Failing autistic people

- 6 out of every 7 people under the age of 18 admitted to ATUs now have autism and no learning disability.
- If you have an autism-only diagnosis in an ATU, you are far less likely to have a discharge plan in place than if you have a learning disability (22% vs 30%.)
- The proportion of inpatients with an autism-only diagnosis has risen from 16% to 34% in the past 6 years

What are providers doing?

- Some providers are investing, **not** divesting – Merseycare, Cygnet
- **NHS Provider Collaboratives** include use private providers – Cygnet, Priory, St Andrews, Elysium… but where are the community providers?
- Private hospital providers are developing residential care to which they discharge their own patients. (source: CBF / Mencap / LDE)
- Many are also being designated as failing by CQC – Firshill, Sheffield

"With appropriate resourcing, legal frameworks and genuine co-working between agencies, families and the person, people can live in the community to achieve their potential.

"If at all, hospital should only ever be one small step in a pathway.

"For the pathway to avoid dead ends, it must include person-centred philosophy, trauma-informed planning and practice, targeting resources to prevention and removing the opportunity to profit from institutional care."

Dr Jeremy Tudway
Clinical Director, Dimensions

What's happening?

An **APPG** on Inappropriate Institutional Care

- Chair: Barbara Keeley, MP
- Secretariat: Dimensions

Write to your constituency **MP** and ask them to join this APPG:
A template letter is available

A fresh, coproduced set of policies

- For relevant APPGs + feeding into the government's disability and autism strategies

Write to us and lend your organisation's support to the policies:
marketing@dimensions-uk.org

Policy recommendations

- Funding
- Care and Treatment Reviews (CTRs)
- Profit motive
- Families
- Housing
- Accountability & Progress

Proving life can get better

Funding

- Fix the numerous perverse financial disincentives to discharge, for example the settings of the dowry system, through a full review of the financial structures associated with transforming care.
- Fund social care in line with the Local Government Association's (or similar) assessment of need.

Care and Treatment Reviews (CTRs)

- No ATU should be able to score better than **inadequate** in a CQC inspection if more than (x) patients are missing an in-date CTR.
- No ATU should be able to score better than **inadequate** in a CQC inspection if more than (x) in an inspected sample are considered to fail quality parameters.
- Every CTR to identify locally present organisations with experience of supporting people out of ATUs.

Profit motive

An outright **ban** on for-profit organisations running ATUs

Families

Strengthen family information networks through funding independent advocacy groups.

Housing

- Increase funding to the Disabled Facilities Grant, extending maximum funding beyond the current £30k limit for people in exceptional situations - and commit to this in the long term.
- Commit funds to specialist housing development in line with forecast long term demand
- Require a proportion of 'social housing' in mainstream developments to include restricted funding for alterations to meet individual accessibility requirements

Accountability and progress

Create a new role:

National Director for Transforming Care

Take action NOW!

Write to your constituency **MP** and ask them to join this APPG:

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