

Dear Colleagues

**IMPORTANT UPDATE ABOUT ADULT COMMUNITY SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICE:
New service provision available**

Over recent months, the service has been working closely with all Suffolk Speech and Language Therapy providers and the CCGs to look at providing an equitable service across all client groups. From **1st March**, therefore, we will be piloting an extension to the current community referral criteria for the following 6 months that will include the following additional service provision:

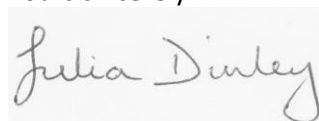
- People with **communication** and/or **swallowing** difficulties associated with **dementia** will be offered a service according to clinical need
- People with **non-acquired neurological problems** may be referred (e.g. cerebral palsy)
- Referrals for **swallowing problems** experienced by people with a mental illness will be accepted to allow us to rule out any anatomical/physiological cause.

Our referral form is attached with this letter, and we will accept referrals via our secure nhs.net account, by post, or fax at either of our administrative bases

East Suffolk	West Suffolk
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Please be aware that the acute hospital speech and language therapists will be outreaching to complete any short term interventions that are started whilst patients are inpatients.

Yours sincerely



Julia Dinley
Professional Manager – Adult Community Speech and Language Therapy Services

