

Health and Wellbeing Board

5 November 2014

Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat - Local Declaration and Response



Report of Nicola Bailey, Chief Operating Officer, North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the local response to the mental health crisis care concordat and present the local declaration sign up and support.
2. A further report will be presented in March 2015 to consider and agree the final local joint action plan.

Background

3. The national mental health crisis concordat was launched a few months ago. One of the key aims of the concordat is to develop joined up service responses to people who are suffering from mental health crisis. There has been national sign up to the concordat by a number of key agencies and there is a specific emphasis on securing delivery of improved outcomes for people in mental health crisis at a local level. It is anticipated that partner organisations will demonstrate their commitment by signing up to a local declaration and agreeing a joint action plan to bring about the local improvements needed. The intention is that both the signed local declaration and the agreed action plan will be made available on a national website to demonstrate local coverage across England.

Mental Health in County Durham

4. Mental health is a key priority for the Health and Wellbeing Board and is a strategic objective within the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. There is a significant focus on mental health partnership work in County Durham through the development of a number of joint strategies with Darlington Borough Council via the County Durham Mental Health Partnership Board and Darlington Mental Health Partnership Network:

- Public Mental Health Strategy
 - Mental Health Strategic Implementation Plan – addressing national policy *No Health without Mental Health and Closing the Gap: priorities for essential change in mental health*
 - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Strategy
 - Multi-Agency Strategy for Supporting People with Dual Diagnosis
5. The crisis care concordat guidance outlines good practice examples to support the development of local actions plans. In County Durham many of these examples are established, in addition to crisis and response services for mental health, for example:
- Acute psychiatric liaison service
 - Care home psychiatric liaison service
 - Childrens crisis service
 - Recovery college (launched in September 2014)

Developing the local response

6. There is agreement to develop the local declaration and action plan across County Durham and Darlington in conjunction with both Health and Wellbeing Boards. This is because a number of partners such as Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Durham Constabulary and North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust operate across the populations of County Durham and Darlington.
7. A multi-agency task and finish group has been established to take forward the local declaration and development of the action plan to support improved outcomes for patients in mental health crisis. The task and finish group is led by the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and a Director of North Durham CCG is taking the lead on behalf of the other CCGs.

Local Declaration

8. The proposed local declaration is attached at appendix two. This is based on a nationally published document. Local areas are expected to publish a final version that is signed up to and supported by statutory organisations and other partner organisations as recommended in the model declaration document. The declaration outlines several key principles based on organisations agreeing to work together and also highlights the importance of ‘parity of esteem’ between physical and mental health in relation to mental health crisis.
9. In signing the declaration the Health and Wellbeing Board in conjunction with other organisations is committing to support a focus on improving outcomes for people in mental health crisis. For many partner organisations this will also mean supporting or taking a lead role in

implementing priorities within a joint action plan, which is currently being developed.

10. Once confirmation of sign up and support from statutory organisations and other key organisations is received the declaration will be finalised and uploaded onto the national website as a publicly available document by the end of November 2014. There will be an opportunity for a press or media statement to be communicated to coincide with the publication of the final declaration.

Local Action Plan

11. The local action plan will be agreed and published before the 31 March 2015, which is in line with national timescales. The development of the action plan is underway and a near final draft is expected to be completed by the end of December 2014. This would enable partner organisations sufficient time in January and February to consider and sign off the action plan ahead of final version being received and supported by the Health and Wellbeing Board in March 2015.
12. Engagement with service users, members of the public and partner organisations is planned. This process will build on the recent 'big tent' engagement event held in County Durham.

Recommendations

13. The Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:
 - Sign up to and support the local mental health crisis care declaration
 - Note the approach to developing the local response to the crisis care concordat

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

No direct implications at this point

Staffing

No direct implications.

Risk

No direct implications.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

No direct implications.

Accommodation

No direct implications.

Crime and Disorder

Links with the Constabulary and Police and Crime Commissioner.

Human Rights

No direct implications.

Consultation

Engagement is planned building on the recent big tent event.

Procurement

No implications.

Disability Issues

Issues in relation to disability have been considered throughout the development of the local declaration.

Legal Implications

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places clear duties on Clinical Commissioning Groups and local authorities for the commissioning of mental health services. There is national policy direction that requires local areas to publish a local declaration and action plan.

Appendix 2

DRAFT - The 2014 County Durham and Darlington Declaration on improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis, 30 November 2014.

We, as partner organisations in County Durham and Darlington, will work together to put in place the principles of the national **Concordat** to improve the system of care and support so that people in crisis because of a mental health condition are kept safe. We will help them to find the help they need – whatever the circumstances – from whichever of our services they turn to first.

We will work together to prevent crises happening whenever possible, through intervening at an early stage.

We will make sure we meet the needs of vulnerable people in urgent situations, getting the right care at the right time from the right people to make sure of the best outcomes.

We will do our very best to make sure that all relevant public services, contractors and independent sector partners support people with a mental health problem to help them recover. Everybody who signs this declaration will work towards developing ways of sharing information to help front line staff provide better responses to people in crisis.

We are responsible for delivering this commitment in County Durham and Darlington by putting in place, reviewing and regularly updating the attached action plan.

This declaration supports ‘parity of esteem’ (see the glossary) between physical and mental health care in the following ways:

- Through everyone agreeing a shared ‘care pathway’ to safely support, assess and manage anyone who asks any of our services in County Durham and Darlington for help in a crisis. This will result in the best outcomes for people with suspected serious mental illness, provide advice and support for their carers, and make sure that services work together safely and effectively.
- Through agencies working together to improve individuals’ experience (professionals, people who use crisis care services, and carers) and reduce the likelihood of harm to the health and wellbeing of patients, carers and professionals.
- By making sure there is a safe and effective service with clear and agreed policies and procedures in place for people in crisis, and that organisations can access the service and refer people to it in the same way as they would for physical health and social care services.

- By all organisations who sign this declaration working together and accepting our responsibilities to reduce the likelihood of future harm to staff, carers, patients and service users or the wider community and to support people's recovery and wellbeing.

(Guidance)Who should sign a local Declaration?

Many local organisations want to support the Declaration because of their commitment to improve mental health care and may want to make a specific contribution within the action plan for continuous improvements.

In addition, certain organisations have a formal (statutory) responsibility and/or a professional duty of care regarding people presenting in mental health crisis:

- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- NHS England Local Area teams (primary care commissioners)
- Commissioners of social services
- The Police Service
- Police and Crime Commissioners
- The Ambulance Service

- NHS providers of Urgent and Emergency Care (Emergency Departments within local hospitals)
- Public / independent providers of NHS funded mental health services
- Public / independent providers of substance misuse services

We, the organisations listed below, support this Declaration. We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in County Durham and Darlington.

The list of organisations and logos will be listed here once finalised

Glossary of terms used in this declaration

<p>Concordat</p>	<p>A document published by the Government.</p> <p>The Concordat is a shared, agreed statement, signed by senior representatives from all the organisations involved. It covers what needs to happen when people in mental-health crisis need help.</p> <p>It contains a set of agreements made between national organisations, each of which has a formal responsibility of some kind towards people who need help. It also contains an action plan agreed between the organisations who have signed the Concordat.</p> <p>Title: Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat – Improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis Author: Department of Health and Concordat signatories Document purpose: Guidance Publication date: 18th February 2014</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/281242/36353_Mental_Health_Crisis_accessible.pdf</p>
<p>Mental health crisis</p>	<p>When people – of all ages – with mental health problems urgently need help because of their suicidal behaviour, panic attacks or extreme anxiety, psychotic episodes, or behaviour that seems out of control or irrational and likely to put the person (or other people) in danger.</p>
<p>Parity of esteem</p>	<p>Parity of esteem is when mental health is valued equally with physical health.</p> <p>If people become mentally unwell, the services they use will assess and treat mental health disorders or conditions on a par with physical illnesses.</p> <p>Further information: http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/qual-clin-lead/pe</p>
<p>Recovery</p>	<p>One definition of Recovery within the context of mental health is from Dr. William Anthony:</p> <p>“Recovery is a deeply personal, unique process changing one’s attitude, values, feelings, goals, skills, and/or roles.</p> <p>It is a way of living a satisfying, hopeful, and contributing life.</p> <p>Recovery involves the development of new meaning and purpose in one’s life as one grows beyond the catastrophic effects of psychiatric disability” (Anthony, 1993) Further information http://www.imroc.org/</p>