

11th September 2014		ITEM: 7
Health & Wellbeing Board		
Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Not Applicable	
Report of: Mark Tebbs (Head of Mental Health & LD Commissioning)		
Accountable Head of Service: Mark Tebbs (Head of Mental Health & LD Commissioning)		
Accountable Director: Mandy Ansell (Interim Accountable Officer Thurrock CCG)		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

Improving Outcomes for People experiencing Mental Health Crisis

This briefing sets out the key considerations regarding the mental health crisis concordat. The paper considers:

- Overview and background information
- The key expectations and principals of the Concordat: (DH Dec 2014)
- Summary of challenges
- Next steps

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 It is recommended that the board notes the contents of this report for information with consideration given into signing the principals of the Concordat approach.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 The mental health crisis concordat is a national agreement between services and agencies involved in the care and support of people in crisis. The concordat sets out a new agreement between police, the NHS, the Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and other emergency partners in a

bid to improve mental health crisis care. The agreement has been signed by more than 20 national organisations in a bid to drive up standards of care for people experiencing crises. The concordat is seen as a key tool to ensure that individuals experiencing crises will consistently receive a robust and responsive service from all agencies.

2.2 Key Expectations & Principles:

The concordat expects that local partnerships of health, criminal justice and local authorities will agree to commit to a local **Mental Health Crisis Declaration** by December 2014. These will consist of commitments and actions at local level that will deliver services that meet the principles of the national concordat.

The primary aim of the concordat serves as a joint statement of intent and common purpose. The concordat aims to ensure there is clear agreement and understanding of roles and responsibilities for each service. This will help to make sure people who need immediate mental health crisis support will get the right services when they need them.

The focus and vision of the concordat is arranged around four key objectives:

- Access to support before crisis point
- Urgent and emergency access in crisis care
- The right quality of treatment and care when in crisis
- Recovery and staying well, and preventing future crisis

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 Summary of Challenges

The key challenges are to:

- Ensure health based places of safety and beds are available 24/7 in case someone experiences a mental health crisis
- Police cells not being used because mental health services are not available. The use of police vehicles as a form of patient transfer is discontinued, with a

commitment to halve use of cells as a place of safety for people experiencing mental health issues compared to 2011/2012

- Timescales put in place so police responding to mental health crisis know how long they will have to wait for a response from health and social care workers, thus making sure patients get suitable care as soon as possible.
- People in crisis should expect that services will share essential “need to know” information about them so they can receive the best care possible.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 The East of England held a conference on the 4/07/14 to support local areas to develop the declaration. The board is requested to note the following:

- The PCC’s (Police & Crime Commissioners) office, in collaboration with the safeguarding hub, have had an initial meeting to identify key stakeholders for an Essex wide footprint including Thurrock & Southend for a declaration in line with the vision of the concordat
- A letter to Thurrock CCG COO, executives of the acute trusts and ambulance trust and local executives of national bodies that are signatories to the concordat will be sent out by Morris Mason (Assistant Chief Constable Essex Police) setting out the basis and principals of concordant. The letter will ask for commitment from an executive level to agree ownership of declaration and nominate individuals to be part of planning group on behalf of relevant organisations.
- Development of Action plan and agreed footprint for localisation

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

At the concordat working group meeting on the 30th July 2014, hosted by the Chief Constables office it was agreed by group members that there should be two events undertaken in relation to the concordat one that highlighted the signing up to the declaration of the required organisations and a further event aimed at operational staff. These would form part of consultation for the declaration and agreed action plan.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

Not applicable

7. Implications

7.1 Financial Mike Jones Management Accountant Mxjones@thurrock.gov.uk

Achieving a robust local action plan might well include some financial commitment taking into consideration current commissioned services with a possibility of redesign dependent on any potential gaps.

7.2 Legal Dawn Pelle dawn.pelle@ BDTLegal.org.uk

No implications.

The concordat is a joint statement of commitment by signatories with one shared vision to work together to improve the system of care and support so people in crisis because of mental health condition are kept safe and helped to find the support they need whatever the circumstances in which they first need help and from whichever service they turn to first.

7.3 Diversity and Equality: Teresa Evans Equalities and Cohesion Officer Tevans@thurrock.gov.uk

No Implications

The ethos of the concordat is broadly based on equal access for everyone during crisis. It focuses on an awareness of commissioners and providers being aware of the Equality Act 2010 and applying it to mental health services. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 also introduced new legal duties regarding health inequalities for NHS England, stating that inequality of access to services and inequality of outcomes from them must be reduced.

Equality and diversity is a key policy objective within England's cross government strategy for mental health, No health without mental health.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

No Implications

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

<http://www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk/>

9. Appendix to the report

Appendix 1 Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat

Signatories of Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat

Association of Ambulance Chief Executives
Association of Chief Police Officers
Association of Directors of Adult Social Services
Association of Directors of Children's Services
Association of Police and Crime Commissioners
British Transport Police
Care Quality Commission
College of Emergency Medicine
College of Policing
The College of Social Work
Department of Health
Health Education England
Home Office
Local Government Association
Mind
Mental Health Network, NHS Confederation
NHS England
Public Health England
Royal College of General Practitioners
Royal College of Nursing
Royal College of Paediatrics' and Child Health
Royal College of Psychiatrists

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