

Appendix 1

Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat



Cambridgeshire & Peterborough joint declaration on improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis November 3, 2014

“We, as partner organisations in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, will work together to implement the principles of the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat to improve the system of care and support so people of any age in crisis, because of a 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 of our services they turn to first.

We will work together to prevent mental health crises happening whenever possible through prevention and early intervention.

We will make sure we meet the needs of vulnerable people in mental health crisis providing them with the right care at the right time and from the right service.

We will strive to ensure that all relevant public services, voluntary and private sector partners support people with a mental health problem to move towards recovery.

We will develop ways of sharing information, where appropriate, to enable front line staff to provide co-ordinated support to people in mental health crisis.

We are responsible for delivering this commitment to the people of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough by putting in place, reviewing and regularly updating our local Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat action plan.

This declaration supports parity of esteem, where mental health is valued equally with physical health. It does so in the following ways:

- Through everyone agreeing a shared care pathway to safely support, assess and manage anyone who asks any of our services for help in a mental health crisis. This will result in people with suspected serious mental illness, and their carers, being provided with advice and support and will ensure that services work together safely and effectively.
- Through agencies working together to improve individuals' experience, whether they are professionals, people who use mental health crisis care services, and/or carers, and to reduce the likelihood of harm to the health and wellbeing of these people.
- By making sure services for people of all ages in mental health crisis are safe and effective, with clear policies and procedures in place, and that organisations can access appropriate services and refer people to them 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, service users and the wider community, and to support people's recovery and wellbeing.
- By all organisations who sign this declaration working together and accepting our responsibilities to reduce the incidence of suicide.”