

**Chief Officers, Chief Executives and  
Accountable Officers**

**Statutory and voluntary organisations  
and agencies for mental health services  
in the Peninsula**

14<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear Colleague

### **Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat for the Peninsula - Declaration**

We are writing to seek your support for a declaration to be made on the National Concordat website on behalf of Peninsula organisations involved in mental health care. The **Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat** is a national agreement between services and agencies involved in the care and support of people in crisis. It sets out how organisations will work together better to make sure that people in crisis receive urgent mental health care.

In February 2014, 22 national bodies involved in health, policing, social care, housing, local government and the third sector came together and signed the national concordat. It focuses on four main areas: access to support before crisis point; urgent and emergency access to crisis care; quality of treatment and care when in crisis; and recovery and staying well.

The approach we have taken in the Peninsula follows on from the Call to Action for Mental Health conference held in February, where an agreement was reached to develop a Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat for the Peninsula, steered through a Learning and Action Set for Chief Officers from selected organisations. The Learning Set has involved service users and carers from the outset.

The Peninsula Learning and Action Set has started and will operate as an influential group of senior leaders, championing mental health issues, parity of esteem and transformation of the patient experience at Board level and in local, regional and national forums.

The organisations selected to form the Learning and Action Set are:

- Service user and carer (requested through Mind and Rethink);
- Peninsula main NHS mental health providers – Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – Colin Quick, Devon Partnership NHS Trust – Melanie Walker and Plymouth Community Health -Dave McAuley;
- Devon and Cornwall Police - Sharon Taylor;
- Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner – Andrew White;
- Peninsula CCGs – Kernow CCG - Dr Paul Cook, New Devon CCG – Dr Stephen Miller and South Devon & Torbay CCG – Dr Derek Greatorex;
- Local Authority Adult and Children's services - Carole Burgoyne;
- Voluntary sector- Samaritans- James Waghorn;
- South West Peninsula Academic Health Science Network – Ian Harrison;
- Acute Trust emergency care system leader - Anne Hicks;
- South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust – David Partlow;

*High quality care for all, now and for future generations*

- Strategic Clinical Network for Mental Health in the South West- Justine Faulkner;
- Area Team, NHS England – Amanda Fisk.

This gives us a group of people from 11 sectors.

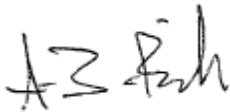
The Learning and Action Set will meet once every 6 weeks for approximately 12 months to enable the members of the Set to get to grips with the local issues and what needs to change. It will translate the experience of participants into a vision for improved mental health, providing the opportunity for understanding the perspectives of the various agencies and identifying and working through obstacles and opportunities for change to realise the local concordat.

In terms of national expectations, it is expected that all localities will have submitted their concordat declarations by the end of the year across England. Once declarations have been made they are submitted to the concordat website, which includes a map showing where progress has been made. The next step is then to develop an action plan that sets out in detail how we will continuously improve support for people in mental health crisis. The Peninsula makes sense as a locality for the declaration given the connection through the Strategic Clinical Network and also the work of the Learning and Action Set. Further details and a copy of the draft declaration can be found at:

[www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk](http://www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk)

We would like to submit the declaration at the end of the month, and therefore request your support. Please do raise any issues of interest or any queries with Amanda Fisk. We will review feedback and anticipate, if everyone is in agreement, uploading the declaration on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Yours faithfully



Amanda Fisk  
Director of Operations and Delivery  
NHS England  
(Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Area  
Team)



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MSc (Criminol.)  
Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist  
Chair, Strategic Clinical Network for Mental Health  
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Cc: Jim Symington, National Concordat Implementation Team