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Placing mental health at the heart of what we do

Welcome to the first edition of the partnership bulletin from Cheshire and Merseyside Mental Health Programme Board.

Who are we?

Mental Health is one of five Strategic programmes of the Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership – established to identify opportunities where a system-wide solution can be shared across all Cheshire and Merseyside health and care programmes.



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The Partnership is not an organisation but a collection of organisations responsible for providing health and care services in Cheshire and Merseyside. It involves the NHS, GPs, local councils and

the community and voluntary sector coming together to plan how best to deliver these services in future so that they meet the needs of local people, are high quality and affordable.

More information on the partnership can be found on www.cheshireandmerseysidepartnership.co.uk/about-us

The Partnership agreed that mental health should be a strategic priority in Cheshire and Merseyside and established the Mental Health Programme Board. Our Board is multi agency and is made up of organisations across the two counties including Mental Health NHS trusts, local authorities, Third Sector, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and sits within the second largest Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) in England.

Why do we need a Mental Health Programme Board in Cheshire and Merseyside?

The Mental Health Programme Board has been established in Cheshire and Merseyside to speed up the implementation of the Five Year Forward View (FYFV) for mental health.

Mental Health is everyone's business and the responsibility of everyone working in the NHS. We recognise that bringing about real improvement requires a multi-agency and collaborative approach supported by strong leadership.

Following a re-focus of our work, the Board is now leading on FYFV objectives best developed at scale, as determined by our partners across Cheshire and Merseyside. The Board also has oversight of development on all other FYFV Mental Health objectives – which we describe as 'place based'.

The ten objectives that the Board lead on are set out below. We have established a number of working groups to deliver on these work programmes, all of which are clinically led and supported by staff from within Board member organisations.

Board members agreed which organisation would take a lead role on each objective and this is shown below.

FYFV Priority Area	Objective	Lead Organisation
Crisis Care (adults)	New pathways for crisis care, including potential C&M advice line and alternatives to admission	North West Boroughs Healthcare
Specialised (Tier 4) CAMHS New Care Model	Develop a new care model for CAMHS by working in collaboration with C&M partners	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership and Alder Hey
Individual Placement Support	Bid for national funding for wave 1 and wave 2 – to realise the 5YFV MH ambition to double access to IPS, enabling people with severe mental illness to find and retain employment	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership
Supported housing strategy	Develop joint strategy for MH and LD	TBC

Secure Care New Care Model	Deliver objectives for those with forensic needs as outlined in the New Care Model business case (Prospect Partnership)	Mersey Care
Integrating physical and MH services	Recommend model of care for medically unexplained symptoms, spanning primary and tertiary care services (eg. pain and CVD)	Warrington CCG and Mersey Care
Personality Disorder Services	Develop improved pathways and community provision	Mersey Care and North West Boroughs Healthcare
Health & Justice Services	Map current liaison and diversion provision and respond to imminent tender opportunity aligned with Cheshire footprint	North West Boroughs Healthcare
Perinatal MH	Implement and develop new Specialist PMH services across C&M	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership
Suicide Prevention	Delivery of CHAMPs work plan	CHAMPs public health collaborative

Why a Mental Health Programme Bulletin?

It's really important that we share our work across all services and organisations that have a role in delivering the Mental Health agenda so that you and your colleagues are aware of developments taking place at a Cheshire and Merseyside level. It will also help to ensure that we are linked into the work that you are all doing.

We have developed this bulletin to help us to communicate with you all and to ensure you are informed of all developments. Each quarterly bulletin will provide a brief update on the progress of our priority work streams.

What have we done so far?

The Mental Health Programme Board has made significant strides towards supporting the Cheshire and Merseyside health and care system to achieve the FYFV Mental Health objectives. Whilst we do not have a role in commissioning or monitoring specific services, we have a significant role in enabling the system to ensure the provision of safe, quality, effective, evidence-based and local care to service users and their families.

Cheshire and Merseyside has received an additional **£7.8 million** of national funding for mental health and care services for our residents in the last 18 months under Health and Care Partnership sponsorship. This includes funding for increased Liaison Psychiatry Services, Crisis Care for our children and young people and specialist perinatal mental health provision for our new mums and mums to be.



Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Partnership

We are very proud that the National Director for Mental Health, Claire Murdoch, visited our Specialist Perinatal Mental Health service recently. Claire met the team which launched last year and is delivered by three NHS trusts working in partnership - Cheshire and Wirral Partnership, Mersey Care and North West Boroughs Healthcare. During pregnancy and in the first year after birth, women can be affected by a range of mental health problems, including anxiety, depression and postnatal psychosis. These are known as perinatal mental illnesses. The service provides support for women with complex or severe mental illnesses during the perinatal period.

Claire said: "Mental ill health doesn't discriminate. It can happen to anyone at any time and it disrupts life not just for mums but the whole family, which is why NHS England is absolutely committed to driving forward improvements in care and ensuring this important area of mental health continues to get the attention it deserves. Women with lived experience can play a pivotal role when it comes to shaping the services for others so it was great to hear first-hand from women who have accessed the service and hear how it is providing vital support and making a difference to people's lives across Cheshire and Merseyside."



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Dr Mark Barsoum, our Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist said: “The perinatal period is the most critical time for a woman's mental health. We are delighted that we now, following NHS England’s investment, can offer a gold standard, evidence-based service for all the women and families of Merseyside.”

The next bulletin will be issued in the autumn of 2018.

If you are interested in finding out more about the work of the MHPB or would like any further information please contact Programme Board Manager Jill.Gilliam2@NHS.Net

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