

Proposal to Establish a Cumbrian Mental Partnership Board

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Cumbria Mental Health Concordat – Achievements

- County wide Mental Health Concordat was established in 2019 as the acute provider landscape changed to provide a strong and cohesive mental health voice to the most senior leaders across the county.
- First priority was to examine and improve working relationships between the NHS and the Cumbria Constabulary. A MOU has been across the system with the development of street triage as a practical example of good relationships.
- The Concordat has given the 3rd sector a powerful link into senior decision makers across the county.
- The Mental Health Partnership Board, which reports into the Concordat has facilitated excellent cross county sharing and learning. With Every Life Matters, a booklet was delivered through every Cumbrian letterbox, a designed to help mental wellbeing during the first lockdown.

Proposal to refresh and evolve

- The Cumbrian Mental Health Concordant has been an important vehicle for developing partnership relationships and ensure oversight and focus on Mental Health within Cumbria.
- Partners were asked to sign up to the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat in 2014 and there was an agreement between services and agencies involved in the care and support of people in crisis.
- Reporting into this group were a number of task and finish groups, which have brought resolution and improvement of different degrees of efficiency – which may suggest an opportunity for a refreshed focus
- This is now a time of considerable structural change in terms of ICS; ICP; Place and Local Authority's.
- The Long Term Plan will ensure that mental health and emotional wellbeing will remain a national strategic priority.

Recommendation

1. That the current Mental Health Concordant evolves into a Cumbrian Mental Health Partnership Board (CMHPB).
2. That the CMHPB reports into the Cumbrian Health and Well Being Board.
3. That ongoing work continues to shape the accountability and governance for the CMHPB into the two ICS.
4. That each partner will continue to report into their own organisational governance structures.

Objectives – a unified approach

- The CMHPB will be there to ensure consistent implementation of any mental health strategies in Cumbria.
- The CMHPB will be there to ensure a continued unified vision and focus on Mental Health within Cumbria and how it will support addressing health inequalities.
- The focus of the CMHPB will be adults but will work alongside the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health forum's.

Overarching ambitions

- To ensure strategy and delivery is informed by population health with a focus on health inequalities.
- To reduce mental health inequalities.
- To improve flexibility, integration and compassionate response of services.
- To increase the voice of lived experience in the way services are shaped and delivered.
- To deliver improved outcomes for Cumbrian residents experiencing mental health concerns.

Indicative Key Priorities for 23/25 – needs wider collective discussion

- Delivering on the primary and community mental health transformation programmes; ensuring improved access, outcomes and strong links with other multi-agency community services.
- Target mental health promotion and prevention within communities most at risk of poor mental health, suicide and self-harm.
- Working with people with multiple and complex needs such as homelessness, addictions, alongside mental health concerns.
- Ensure all services recognise the impact that trauma or psychological and social adversity has on mental health.
- Continue to improve timely access to mental health crisis services, support and ensure that people receive a compassionate response.
- Ensure older people are able to access information, support and appropriate treatment that meet their needs.
- Improve the physical health of people with serious mental illness.

Leadership

- The CMHPB will have a rolling Chair (annually) to support collective engagement.
- The ambition will be to have a joint Chair with lived experience.
- The CMHPB will meet bi monthly (potentially quarterly) .
- There will be partnership collective accountability and an escalation process.
- To be informed by population health demographics.
- This may include workshop sessions to facilitate partnership development or a focus on a strategic priority – so action focused.
- There will be a process to measure quality and performance of this board, so the impact can be measured and assurance provided.

Next steps if the CMHPB is agreed

- A partner mapping exercise to ensure all that lines of reporting, for example mental health transformation boards, flow into the CMHPB.
- A detailed Terms of Reference to be developed outlining function; form; and accountability.
- To discuss and propose a set of key strategic objectives and priorities - that will be for all partners to share and then “capture on a page” what we need to do as well as want to do.

Questions