The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat is a national, joint statement published by the Government and signed by senior representatives from organisations committed to improving mental health care. In addition to listing a set of core principles, the document includes a national action plan agreed by the organisations who have signed the Concordat.

Each region has committed to the national agreement by signing a local declaration and developing a county-wide action plan. This is Hertfordshire’s declaration:

**2014 Hertfordshire Declaration on improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis**

We, as partner organisations in Hertfordshire, will work together to implement the principles of the national Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat and improve the care and support available to people in crisis because of a mental health condition, so that they are kept safe and receive the most effective interventions swiftly. We will help people find the help they need − whatever the circumstances − from whichever of our services they turn to first.

We will work together to prevent crises happening whenever possible, through intervening at an early stage and by looking together at the factors that contribute to crisis.

We will make sure we meet the needs of vulnerable people in urgent situations, getting the right care at the right time from the right people to make sure of the best outcomes.

We will do our very best to make sure that all relevant public services, contractors and independent sector partners support people with a mental health problem to help them recover.

Everybody who signs this declaration will work towards developing ways of sharing information to help front line staff provide better responses to people in crisis.

We are responsible for delivering this commitment in Hertfordshireby putting in place, reviewing and regularly updating the Mental Health Crisis Care action plan.

**By signing this declaration, Hertfordshire supports ‘parity of esteem’ between physical and mental health care in the following ways:**

* Through everyone agreeing a ‘shared care pathway’ to safely support, assess and manage anyone who asks any of our services in Hertfordshire for help in a crisis, that is comparable to the response to a physical health crisis.
* Outcomes for people with suspected serious mental illness will be comparable to those of people experiencing other types of crisis; providing advice and support for carers, and make sure that services work together safely and effectively.
* Agencies working together to improve individuals’ experience (professionals, people who use crisis care services, and carers) and reduce the likelihood of harm to the health and wellbeing of patients, carers and professionals.
* By making sure that services are safe and effective with clear and agreed policies and procedures in place for people in crisis, and that these services are as easy to access as those for physical health and social care services.
* All organisations that sign this declaration will work together and accept our responsibilities to reduce the likelihood of future crisis and to support people’s recovery and wellbeing.

**We, the organisations listed below, as signatories to this Declaration are in support of change and positive action. We are committed to working together to continue to improve mental health crisis care for people in Hertfordshire.**

 

**[East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group](http://www.enhertsccg.nhs.uk/)** **Herts-Valleys-CCG-col**

[East and North Herts NHS Trust](http://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/)http://www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/images/logo_trust_300.jpg

[](http://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/) **\\hdrives.main.herts.police.cjx.gov.uk\hdrives$\4097\Mental Health Concordat\herts parts.png**

 [](http://www.hertsdirect.org/) 

  

 