

The 2014 Staffordshire Declaration on improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis:

We, as partner organisations in Staffordshire will work together to put in place the principles of the national **Concordat** to improve the system of care and support so that people in crisis because of a mental health condition are kept safe. We will help them to find the help they need – whatever the circumstances – from whichever of our services they turn to first.

People will be able to access the right level of Assessment, Advice, Support and Early Intervention at the earliest opportunity: (Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Mental Health Strategy 2014 Chapter 6)

We will work together to prevent crises happening whenever possible, through intervening at an early stage.

We will work together to ensure that people can access services when they need them – particularly when they are in crisis.

We will work more closely with people to understand how a crisis referral can be avoided, but when a crisis does occur that a swift and appropriate response can be initiated.

We actively support the aim that **'No one experiencing a mental health crisis should ever be turned away from services'** early recognition of, and response to, mental illness at the first point of contact is key to the achievement of this – people who use mental health services and their families or carers often know when they are approaching crisis and many know what they need to avoid it – we will listen and be able respond effectively. To make this happen we will support and influence all relevant services and partners to support people with mental health problems and help them to recover.

We are committed to reducing the number of people who are detained in police custody under Section 136, our aspiration is that this will never happen unless it is the right approach for someone.

We will strengthen the connectivity between services and professionals to improve the outcomes for people through clear integrated pathways with clear mechanisms for sharing information so that the right response is provided at the right time in the right place.

We recognise that delays in care often lead to a crisis.

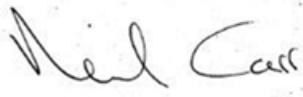
We will do our very best to make sure that all relevant public services, contractors and independent sector partners support people with a mental health problem to help them recover. Everybody who signs this declaration will work towards developing ways of sharing information to help front line staff provide better responses to people in crisis.

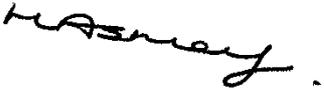
We are responsible for delivering this commitment in Staffordshire by putting in place, reviewing and regularly updating an agreed action plan.

This declaration supports 'parity of esteem' between physical and mental health care in the following ways:

- We will have a clear shared pathway to support, assess and manage everyone that asks our services for help in a crisis
- We will develop a common access and care standards policy
- We will work together to deliver a safe and effective service with clear policies and procedures in place
- We will support all of our front line staff through access to information, advice and training
- We will continue to progress to 24 hour access to services

We, the organisations listed below, support this Declaration. We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Staffordshire

Name	Organisation	Signature
<p>Cllr. Alan White Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing, Staffordshire County Council</p>	<p>Co-Chair of Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board</p>	
<p>Dr Johnny McMahon Chair of Cannock Clinical Commissioning Group</p>	<p>Co-Chair of Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board</p>	
<p>Rita Symons Accountable Officer South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group (Mental Health Lead South Staffordshire)</p>	<p> South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group</p>	
<p>Dr Julie Oxtoby Clinical Accountable Officer North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (Mental Health Lead North Staffordshire)</p>	<p> North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group</p>	
<p>Eric Robinson Deputy Chief Executive and Director for People</p>	<p> Staffordshire County Council</p>	
<p>Caroline Donovan Chief Executive</p>	<p>North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare  <small>NHS Trust</small></p>	
<p>Neil Carr Chief Executive</p>	<p>South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare  <small>NHS Foundation Trust A Keele University Teaching Trust</small></p>	
<p>Eddie Wylie Sub-divisional Commander (Pennine)</p>	<p> BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE</p>	

Name	Organisation	Signature
<p>Stuart Poynor Chief Executive</p>	<p>Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership </p>	
<p>Jane Sawyers Chief Constable (temporary)</p>		
<p>Mark Hackett Chairman and Chief Executive</p>	<p>University Hospitals of North Midlands </p>	
<p>Dr Ken Deacon Medical Director/ Interim Director of Commissioning</p>		
<p>Matthew Ellis Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire</p>		
<p>Jan Sensier Chief Executive</p>		
<p>Helen Ashley Chief Executive Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</p>	<p>Burton Hospitals </p>	
<p>Chris Judge Service Delivery Director for Staffordshire</p>		
<p>Noreen Oliver Chief Executive</p>		
<p>David Ashford Head of Clinical Practice - Mental Health</p>	<p>West Midlands Ambulance Service </p>	

The following organisations have also given their support to this Declaration



Glossary of terms used in this declaration

<p>Concordat</p>	<p>A document published by the Government.</p> <p>The Concordat is a shared, agreed statement, signed by senior representatives from all the organisations involved. It covers what needs to happen when people in mental-health crisis need help.</p> <p>It contains a set of agreements made between national organisations, each of which has a formal responsibility of some kind towards people who need help. It also contains an action plan agreed between the organisations who have signed the Concordat.</p> <p>Title: Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat – Improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis Author: Department of Health and Concordat signatories Document purpose: Guidance Publication date: 18th February 2014</p> <p>Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/281242/36353_Mental_Health_Crisis_accessible.pdf</p>
<p>Mental health crisis</p>	<p>When people – of all ages – with mental health problems urgently need help because of their suicidal behaviour, panic attacks or extreme anxiety, psychotic episodes, or behaviour that seems out of control or irrational and likely to put the person (or other people) in danger.</p>
<p>Parity of esteem</p>	<p>Parity of esteem is when mental health is valued equally with physical health.</p> <p>If people become mentally unwell, the services they use will assess and treat mental health disorders or conditions on a par with physical illnesses.</p> <p>Further information: http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/qual-clin-lead/pe</p>

Recovery	<p>One definition of Recovery within the context of mental health is from Dr. William Anthony:</p> <p>“Recovery is a deeply personal, unique process changing one’s attitude, values, feelings, goals, skills, and/or roles.</p> <p>It is a way of living a satisfying, hopeful, and contributing life.</p> <p>Recovery involves the development of new meaning and purpose in one’s life as one grows beyond the catastrophic effects of psychiatric disability” (Anthony, 1993)</p> <p>Further information http://www.imroc.org/</p>
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