Immediate release [insert date]

[**Partnership makes plan to improve mental health care in**](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/health/partnership_pledge_to_improve_mental_health_care_in_norfolk_1_3714936&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTI2NTE3NDMwMDAxNjYwNDk4MTMyHGM1MzdjNGYwZmVmYzRlZDQ6Y28udWs6ZW46R0I&usg=AFQjCNEXoryy7rcgw0w-wj7ISno8VSHx7g) **[area]**

Services and organisations across [area] have developed an action plan for improving the care for people in a mental health crisis as part of the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat. [Name local CCGs, primary care, mental health and ambulance trusts, police, local authority and other services and agencies] came together to sign the concordat in [month] and have now developed a joint plan of action for how they will work together to improve services.

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 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.

 ​

**Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of Mind, the mental health charity said:** “We are really pleased to see organisations getting together locally to work out how they will improve the care of people in mental health crisis. We know that where excellent crisis care exists, it saves lives, but too often people fall through the cracks between different services and don’t get the help they need. Local health services, local authorities, the criminal justice system and voluntary organisations must deliver a joined-up service and learn from each other to truly provide the best possible care.”

For more information about the concordat, visit [www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk](http://www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk)

**Ends**

**Notes to editor:**

For more information or interviews contact XXX

**Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat: the joint statement**

*We commit to work together to improve the system of care and support so people in crisis because of a mental health condition are kept safe and helped to find the support they need – whatever the circumstances in which they first need help – and from whichever service they turn to first.*

*We will work together, and with local organisations, to prevent crises happening whenever possible through prevention and early intervention. We will make sure we meet the needs of vulnerable people in urgent situations. We will strive to make sure that all relevant public services support someone who appears to have a mental health problem to move towards Recovery.*

*Jointly, we hold ourselves accountable for enabling this commitment to be delivered across England.*