

Building the Foundations: A concordat for action

As the partners that commissioned the review of children and young peoples' emotional health and wellbeing services in Sussex, we accept the challenge that the report has set out for us, both in its findings and its recommendations.

We are determined that the recommendations are translated into demonstrable actions, so that children, young people and their families reap the benefits of the work we now commit to undertake.

To ensure that all the partners play their part, we have developed this concordat for action. It means that the Clinical Commissioning Groups, Brighton & Hove City Council, East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council and Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust are all equally committed to working together in a collaborative way to deliver the actions needed.

This is a significant statement of commitment to a common purpose that has been shared, agreed and signed by the senior leaders of each of the partnership organisations which commissioned the review.

The following statements describe that nature of that commitment:

We accept the recommendations and will work together in partnership to implement them. In doing so we are collectively committed to the improvement of services to support the children and young people who experience poor emotional health and wellbeing in Sussex.

We will develop a clear and prioritised action plan to implement the recommendations. It will contain agreed timescales for the achievement of each of the recommendations and we will work together to regularly monitor our progress and hold each other to account for delivery. We will also ensure independent review of our progress over the period of implementation.

As senior leaders, we will set the standard in the way we work together. We will do so honestly and transparently and we will ensure effective collaboration at all levels of our respective organisations. We will actively support those working to deliver each of the recommendations and practically assist them to overcome any obstacles to achieving them.

We will work closely and constructively with our communities and our other partners in Sussex in the delivery of the recommendations. In particular, we will call upon our colleagues in the voluntary and third sector to commit to work with us and support us, on this journey of improvement.

We will give a strong voice to children, young people and their families. We will listen to them and continue to draw upon their experiences to guide our work to ensure a co-productive approach to improvement.

By signing this concordat, we as leaders are committing ourselves and our organisations to this work, to do it collaboratively and to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people in Sussex.

Signed:

Adam Doyle
Chief Executive Officer
Sussex Clinical Commissioning
Groups and Senior Responsible
Officer for the Sussex Health and
Care Partnership

Samantha Allen
Chief Executive Officer
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation
Trust

Lucy Butler
Executive Director for Children,
Young People and Learning.
West Sussex County Council

Stuart Gallimore
Director of Children's Services
East Sussex County Council

Deb Austin
Interim Executive Director - Families
Children & Learning
Brighton & Hove City Council
Groups

Karen Breen
Deputy Chief Executive Officer and
Chief Operating Officer
Sussex Clinical Commissioning