



Leicestershire Partnership
NHS Trust

MEDIA RELEASE

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Launch of a new mental health crisis resolution and home treatment service for young people

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT), the three Clinical Commissioning Groups and the local authorities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are delighted to announce the launch of a new service to support young people in mental health crisis and their families.

As part of the Future in Mind transformation programme which focuses on improving the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, extensive consultation was carried out with children, young people and families who have had experience of LPT's child and adolescent mental health service (CAMHS). This consultation identified a clear need for a targeted crisis and home treatment service across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. LPT has worked closely with young people, with commissioners and with the local authorities to develop this new service.

The new crisis resolution and home treatment service will provide treatment and support at home for children and young people in mental health crisis and for their families in situations where no physical medical intervention is required. The service will launch on 1 April 2017, building on the existing on-call team which has been in place for a year. It forms part of LPT's five year improvement programme for CAMHS which began in 2016.

Currently, many children and young people experiencing severe mental and emotional distress end up at Accident and Emergency, where access to appropriate and timely psychiatric liaison from specialist child and adolescent mental health professionals is not always immediately available. LPT's new crisis resolution and home treatment service will ensure these children and young people receive timely and appropriate care without having to be admitted to hospital. Where admission has

been necessary, the team will deliver a supportive relapse prevention and recovery care plan to enable early discharge.

The crisis resolution and home treatment service, which will be based at the Agnes Unit on Anstey Lane in Leicester, is aligned with the adult service, and will run 365 days a year from 8am until 10 pm daily. Outside of these hours, referrals will be handled by LPT's adult crisis team.

Care will be tailored to meet the needs of the child or young person and their family, whether this takes the form of a one-off assessment at home, at school or at the GP surgery, or a period of intensive home treatment. The service is aimed at those who are:

- at immediate and significant risk of self-harm or suicide
- experiencing acute psychological or emotional distress which is having such a significant impact on their wellbeing that their schooling is being affected
- being considered for an admission to a mental health inpatient unit
- posing an immediate or significant risk to others due to their mental health.

The service will provide a single point of access for referrers, including GPs, health professionals, local authority professionals, schools, the police and the voluntary sector. Once a referral is received and accepted, the team will seek to make telephone contact with the family within two hours, aiming to assess the child or young person within four to 24 hours depending on the urgency.

Adam Mckeown, head of service for specialist children's services and learning disability services at LPT said: "I am delighted that, after many months of engaging with young people, planning and recruitment, we will be launching our new children's crisis resolution and home treatment service on 1 April. The new team will give children and young people the flexibility they told us they wanted to be supported at home and in the community when experiencing a mental health crisis. The team will work closely with our current CAMHS community services to ensure emergency and urgent support is available outside of a hospital setting."

Elaine Egan-Morriss, CAMHS commissioner, said: "It is great news that we are now able to offer this new service that has been developed in partnership with children, young people and their families as part of the programme to transform children and young people's services across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The service is aimed at improving the experience of children and young people suffering a mental health crisis, by delivering care closer to home, thereby promoting their recovery."

A formal launch event is planned for Wednesday 3 May.

NOTES TO EDITORS

- Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides community health, mental health and learning disabilities services for the one million people living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff.

For more information visit: www.leicspart.nhs.uk. Our registered charity is called Raising Health (charity number 1057361). The charity fundraises to support excellent care initiatives, equipment and innovations which go above and beyond core NHS provision to enhance the experience of our patients, service users and staff. See www.raisinghealth.org.uk

- [Future in Mind](#) is the government's strategy for improving the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. This has informed local transformation plans.
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