



---

**To: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**From: Simon Gilby, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust**

**Title: West Midlands Combined Authority Mental Health Commission Report**

---

## **1 Purpose**

- 1.1 This report draws to the attention of the Board the launch of the report of the Mental Health Commission established by the West Midlands Combined Authority. It asks the board to receive the report and to consider its fit with local strategic priorities and any action it would wish to take.
- 1.2 The report is formally launched on 31 January 2017.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Board is asked to:
- Receive the report
  - Consider its fit with local strategic priorities and what action it would wish to take; this may include formally endorsing, as a Board, the report through the proposed 'Concordat'

## **3 Information/Background**

- 3.1 The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) established the Mental Health Commission in late 2015. The WMCA identified poor mental health and wellbeing as a significant issue for the region, not only in terms of the effects for individuals and families, but more widely on the communities and the economy of the area. It identified the enormous distress for people, greater demand for public services and reduced productivity as key factors and identified improving mental wellbeing as a priority area where the WMCA could deliver public sector reform.
- 3.2 The Commission was made up of independent and respected experts drawn from the fields of mental and public health, including people with lived experience, the public sector and business. It was chaired by Rt. Hon. Norman Lamb MP
- 3.3 To advise it, the Commission established a Citizen's Jury, comprising people with experience of mental ill health

- 3.4 It was supported by a steering group set up to ensure links with the broader stakeholder community and worked with organisations within the WMCA area including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Public Health England (West Midlands), local NHS organisations, the local Department for Work and Pensions, the voluntary sector, police, fire service, courts, housing agencies and employment organisations.
- 3.5 Senior representatives from local authorities, CCGs, health trusts and the police provided additional advice to the Commission.
- 3.6 Alongside taking submissions from stakeholders the Commission, in partnership with the Citizen's jury, held a number of public engagement events.
- 3.7 The report to be launched on 31 January 2017 is described as an Action Plan for Change - called Thrive West Midlands – which sets out how the region can reduce the impact of mental ill health, building happy, thriving communities and supporting those who experience mental ill health.
- 3.8 In advance of the public launch, the commission chair wrote to stakeholders asking for commitment to the proposed actions through signing up to a 'concordat' as set out below:
 

*“We will work together to improve mental health and wellbeing, to reduce the burden of mental ill health across the West Midlands. We will work to improve people’s lives and to encourage healthy communities.*

*We will ensure services meet the needs of people with mental ill health and are provided with empathy and compassion. We will involve people who have experienced mental ill health and their carers at the earliest opportunity in decisions about services.*

*We will work together to develop and deliver the actions agreed across the West Midlands Combined Authority area”*
- 3.9 The key themes of the report will cover: supporting people into work and whilst in work; providing safe and stable places to live; mental health and criminal justice; developing approaches to health care; getting communities involved
- 3.10 It is understood a wide range of stakeholders have signed up to the concordat including the WMCA, police, local authorities, NHS trusts and CCGs
- 3.11 It is proposed to establish a West Midlands Wellbeing Board, reporting to the WMCA board, to ensure clear governance

#### **4 Conclusions**

- 4.1 The focus of the report, and its anticipated proposed actions, provide a strong fit with and support for the agree identified priorities of partner members of the Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board, and with the priorities set out in the developing Coventry and Warwickshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). Clearly individual member organisations of the board will wish to make their own decision on whether to endorse the report's proposals. There is a strong case for the Health and Wellbeing Board to commit to the plan.

**Report Author(s):**

**Name and Job Title:**

Simon Gilby  
Chief Executive  
Coventry and Warwickshire partnership NHS Trust

**Telephone and E-mail Contact:**

02476 324350

[Simon.gilby@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:Simon.gilby@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

**Appendices**

Report of the Mental Health Commission (to follow – 31/01/17)