

## **A commitment to promoting mental health and wellbeing within Warwickshire**

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Warwickshire County Council and partners recognise the importance of promoting positive mental health and wellbeing in ensuring Warwickshire is an attractive place to live and work and supports individuals and communities to flourish in their everyday lives.

The local commitment to promoting and protecting mental health and wellbeing is evident through a range of Council activities and partnerships, some of which are outlined below.

Given the commitment to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing from Warwickshire County Council and partner organisations the **Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to sign-up to the Public Health England Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health.**

A range of public bodies including the Local Government Association, Association of Directors of Public Health UK, Public Health England and NHS England have signed a national Consensus Statement under the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health, committing to work together to promote good mental health and prevent mental health problems. The consensus statement and full list of signatories can be accessed via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevention-concordat-for-better-mental-health-consensus-statement/prevention-concordat-for-better-mental-health#consensus-statement>

### **Promoting Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing in Warwickshire**

Councillor Margaret Bell is the designated Mental Health Champion for Warwickshire County Council, has signed up to the Mental Health Challenge and has advocated for Warwickshire County Council to sign-up to the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health.

Warwickshire County Council has produced a number of reports within the local “Joint Strategic Needs Assessment” (JSNA) programme on mental health and related topics. Previous needs assessments have reported on the mental health needs of children and young people, adults and Veterans, mental health and the local criminal justice system, and explored important risk factors for poor mental health and wellbeing such as social isolation and self-harm (see appendix 1). During 2018 and 2019 Warwickshire County Council and partners will be producing “place-based” JSNAs. These will assess the health and wellbeing needs and assets of local communities in populations of 30-50,000. Indicators of population-level mental

health, such as the prevalence of diagnosed mental health conditions, admissions for self-harm incidents and suicide rates will be included in the assessments. Softer data on what community assets are available and valued by residents in terms of promoting positive wellbeing will also be incorporated. Early stakeholder engagement in Wave 1 of the roll-out of place-based needs assessments has already highlighted mental health as a clear priority for action.

Warwickshire is committed to including the voice of people with lived experience of mental ill-health in to service improvements and commissions a co-production service “Making Spaces” to facilitate this. We also work closely with local voluntary sector organisations through the Mental Health Partnership (hosted by Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action) and the Community Resilience work-stream of the local Sustainability and Transformation Partnership.

A countywide Multiagency Suicide Prevention Group meets regularly with commitment from a range of partners from the Fire and Rescue Service to local voluntary and community sector groups. The group oversee the implementation of the Warwickshire Suicide Prevention Plan which is built around three tiers of intervention (universal, targeted and for vulnerable population groups) and has seven priority areas:

1. Reducing the risk of suicide in key high risk groups
2. Tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups
3. Reduce access to the means of suicide
4. Reducing the impact of suicide
5. Supporting the media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour
6. Improving data and evidence
7. Working together

The above outlines how Warwickshire County Council meets the requirements to be a signatory of the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health; please see attached form for becoming a signatory.

## **Appendix 1: Mental Health with the Warwickshire JSNA programme**

Exploring Self-harm in Children and Young People in Warwickshire (2017)

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-644-291>

An overview of mental health and the criminal justice system in Warwickshire (2017)

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-1014-286>

Mental Health in Adults and Children

<http://hwb.warwickshire.gov.uk/themes/ill-health/mental-health/>

Dementia

<http://hwb.warwickshire.gov.uk/themes/old-age/dementia/>

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Needs Analysis (2016)

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-644-380>

Veterans Mental Health Needs Assessment (2015)

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-644-291>

Loneliness and Social Isolation Needs Assessment (2015)

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-644-270>