

# Mental Health News

## Public Sector Agreement 16

The Mental Health News e-bulletin is a daily bulletin issued by the Mental Health Improvement Programme (MHIP) containing an item relating to a Mental Health issue, development or outcome in the North West.

The aim is to bring awareness to our stakeholders about service improvement and innovative projects underway in Mental Health across the North West, and to encourage you (the reader) to act as vehicle for ensuring that your organisation is engaged with the work where applicable.

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Public Sector Agreement (PSA) 16 is led by the Cabinet Office and is related to socially excluded adults and seeks to tackle disadvantage, ensuring fairness and opportunity for all. It is part of a series of measures within the current Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). This PSA aims to check progress on 4 key user groups: those people with learning difficulties, offenders, Care Leavers and people with long term mental health issues - that people have access to 2 of the core foundations of every day life: access to settled accommodation and employment education & training.

The people with long term mental health issues is a group that is of specific interest to MHIP as in the coming months we will be coordinating a programme of activity with NHS Providers, PCTs and other partners who are working toward the PSA 16 target for this group.

The PSA aims to 1) Encourage early intervention and prevention, 2) Promote joint working 3) Focus resources for best effect and 4) Incentivise and drive service delivery. In doing this, the PSA will help local services and partnerships realise key benefits including:

- Improving life chances
- Decrease overall costs across organisations due to earlier intervention and prevention.
- Impact on related regional and local priorities on health and social inequalities, reducing reoffending, tackling worklessness and improving well being.

We will be releasing money into the system which has come via the Department of Health (DH) to see that projects that meet the needs of the PSA16 users group are able to be maintained and in some cases to see that new innovative projects are set up. We will also be working with the DH North West who has a specific work programme on PSA16 and we will look to how we can align our activity and instigate collaborations to maximise the benefits for this agenda. If you are working on PSA 16 related projects or would like to discuss any aspect of this work please contact: [simon.rippon@northwest.nhs.uk](mailto:simon.rippon@northwest.nhs.uk)

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