INTRODUCTION

1. Luton Borough Council (LBC) and Luton Clinical Commissioning Committee (LCCG) have been working together for some time to improve health and meet the health needs of Luton’s population. Both organisations have responsibilities for the health and well-being of the people of Luton. As the joint working has developed, both organisations have recognised the inter-dependency between health and care systems to achieve better health and wellbeing outcomes and therefore LCCG and LBC have a shared ambition to establish an integrated commissioning function.

2. The way in which Health and Social Care services are delivered nationally and locally is changing through an NHS England initiative entitled ‘Sustainable Transformation Plans (STP)’. These plans are being developed through health and Council partnerships. Luton forms part of the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes partnership (BLMK).

3. This concordat supports these plans, which include: focusing on preventing illness and supporting health and wellbeing; investing in primary, community, mental health and social care to support people in their homes and other settings; creating acute hospital networks to make the best use of specialist services and staff; and using technology to support the delivery of health and care.

4. It is envisaged that the STP will engender closer working across the agencies at local level as well as the wider footprint.

5. **This concordat is intended to provide a framework for co-operation and ultimately integration between the Council and CCG in order:**

   - to enable people in Luton to pursue happy, healthy lives and put people and communities at the heart and everything we do.
• to share responsibility to transform our services, making the best use of the resources available to us.

• Building on existing arrangements for joint commissioning, to significantly broaden and deepen the relationship between Luton CCG and Luton Borough Council. This will include integrating our strategic [health and well-being] commissioning activities, maximising opportunities for co-commissioning, via pooled or co-ordinated budgets, and streamlining our respective governance apparatus. We expect to record substantial progress with this work in the coming months, with a view to operationalising fully integrated commissioning arrangements for the health and well-being of Luton residents during 2018/19."

PRINCIPLES

1. The Council and CCG jointly affirm their commitment to co-operate on matters affecting the NHS, public health, wider health issues and social care for the people of Luton, seeking to work in an open and helpful manner, with good communication and early involvement of the other parties when appropriate. This will build on existing working relationships, with officials continuing to maintain free, informal and regular contact.

2. The parties will inform each other at the earliest reasonable opportunity of issues including the forming of policy, proposals for legislation, and the timing of public announcements - which are likely to be of mutual interest. In coming to decisions or developing policies or legislation which may have an impact financially or otherwise on other parties, or which may constrain others’ policy development, each party will seek the views of those potentially affected at the earliest reasonable opportunity and be mindful of those views in taking any decisions.

3. In summary:
   • We will be bold, brave and challenging in the service of the people of Luton
   • We will align, share and pool resources, budgets and accountabilities where it improves outcomes for the people of Luton
   • We will focus on benefits to the public as a whole, rather than organisational interests. We will take decisions that we know will impact on other parts of the system in an environment of mutual trust.
We will streamline system governance to enable decisions to be taken at scale and pace.

We recognise that there are differences in how we work and the need to design and build systems together, involving our staff.

We will design a system that is easy for everyone to understand and use.

We will continue to work with our STP partners exploring opportunities to design and deliver change that will really improve health and care services.

OPERATION

1. To achieve this we will work in alliance with each other operating with mutual respect and mutual accountability.

2. This Concordat does not create legal obligations or restrictions on any party, though it is a clear intention to move towards formal agreements. Both parties will take steps to ensure the formal agreements are developed at pace and keep all parties informed of progress, including Health and Well-Being Board, relevant committees and boards of both Council and CCG.

3. We will keep the residents of Luton informed on progress and where it is required, formal consultation will be conducted.

4. The Council and CCG will ensure all relevant staff are aware of the terms of the Concordat and associated agreements or guidance.

5. The Council and CCG will become one entity for the benefit of Luton’s population, with an appropriate governance structure which recognises the legal status and the distinct roles and responsibilities of the new entity.

BENEFITS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LUTON

Acknowledging that this is a declaration of intent, rather than specific schemes, we are ambitious with our vision and will work towards our goals such as:

- Prioritising prevention of ill-health, self-care and supporting independent living
• Focussing on effective urgent care services, helping to keep frail and vulnerable people fully supported in the community for as long as possible including integrated teams of support
• Working to improve the health and development of under 5s
• Progressing the parity of mental and physical health, focussing holistically on individuals including education and housing
• Reducing inequalities in accessing services Providing tailored, more integrated support for people at the end of their lives

ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS

1. Associated with this Concordat are a number of agreements and documents that already form part of the existing working arrangements, in particular the formal section 75. (An agreement made under section 75 of National Health Services Act 2006 between a local authority and an NHS body in England. Section 75 agreements can include arrangements for pooling resources and delegating certain NHS and local authority health-related functions to the other partner(s) if it would lead to an improvement in the way those functions are exercised.)

2. Additional agreements, amendments and guidance may be made at any time, and all agreements or guidance will be kept under review and may be updated individually as required, with the agreements of the relevant statutory guidance.

3. The agreements and guidance should be consistent with the terms and spirit of this Concordat.

Signed on behalf of: Signed on behalf of:

Dr Nina Pearson Hazel Simmons
Chair Leader of the Council/ Chair of Luton Health and Wellbeing Board
Luton Clinical Commissioning Group Luton Borough Council