

Policies, Procedures, Guidelines and Protocols

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Author	W. Sweeney	
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3		

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The prevalence of mental health conditions amongst the prison population is well documented. Whilst the proportion of individuals with severe and enduring mental health conditions is significantly higher than in the general population, the majority of those experiencing mental ill health in prison will be suffering from common mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, emotional distress and adjustment problems. This pathway aims to ensure that all these individuals, as well as those with more serious mental ill-health, receive safe and appropriate care whilst resident in HMPYOI Stoke Heath.
- 1.2 Prisoners should have access to the same range and quality of services appropriate to their needs as are available to the general population through the NHS.
- 1.3 NICE guidance on the treatment of depression and anxiety suggests a stepped model of treatment as the most efficient and effective way of delivering and organising services. The model suggests that some individuals referred to the service will require alternatives to clinical services; those individuals with sub clinical symptoms for example and those declining treatment with mild to moderate disorder. In a prison setting there are a range of other services, delivered through a whole prison approach, whose intervention can be of benefit to this population, for example chaplaincy interventions, substance misuse services, discussions and support from wing staff and interventions from the general primary health team (Appendix 1). There are also a number of services outside prison which can be contacted to provide support to individuals whilst in custody (Appendix 5).

2. Purpose

- 2.1 All staff employed by Shropshire Community NHS Trust will work in accordance with this pathway. The purpose of the pathway is to provide clear, simple guidance on use of the pathway, roles and responsibilities and the process to follow where staff engage with individuals within Shropshire prisons who have or may have a mental health need.
- 2.3 The model proposes that, following further assessment and in initial period of “watchful waiting” if appropriate (Step 1) patients with clinical symptoms can then enter treatment at a level of intensity appropriate to their clinical need. Access to guided self help such as books on prescription should be made available at Step 2 and brief face to face therapy at Step 3. The pathway suggests that medication should only be considered at Step 3 along with longer term interventions.
- 2.4 Delivery of the stepped care model requires a managed pathway of care through which access to a range of services, delivered by a range of people, is provided. It is anticipated that non- clinicians will form an essential part of the delivery of low level interventions to individuals.
- 2.5 Following the model it can be seen that problems which could be dealt with by non mental health trained staff include:

- Sleep problems
- Social issues
- Distressing life events
- Bereavement

Residential wing prison officers in particular can be useful in helping individuals with;

- Low level anxiety
- Problems on the wing
- Hygiene issues
- Social issues

3. Definitions.

ACCT – Assessment, Care, Custody and Teamwork – prison service process and documentation to highlight and manage individuals that are vulnerable and/ or at increased risk of self harm / suicide.

MMSE - Mini Mental State Examination - The MMSE is a brief 30-point questionnaire which assesses orientation, memory, arithmetic and written and verbal language skills.

4. Roles and Responsibilities.

Primary mental healthcare is defined as mental healthcare provided by GP's, but within the Shropshire prison setting this is supported by teams of qualified nurses (RMN) who each carry a caseload alongside their other general duties and who carry out mental health assessment, risk assessment screening and structured one to one support and interventions

5. Mental Capacity Statement

Patient's consent is required in all areas of treatment and care, if the person lacks capacity to consent the pathway can still go ahead if it is in the person's best interests and the appropriate steps have been taken to assess this and document it.

More information can be found in the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust's

Consent policy and the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice

Consent cannot be given on behalf of another adult.

5.2 All staff should note that, where a person lacks the capacity to consent to treatment, they should act in the person's best interest (capacity and best interest are defined in the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Mental Capacity Act code of practice).

5.3 All decisions relating to capacity made by a clinician should be recorded in the individual's clinical record.

6. Primary Mental Health Services

6.1 On reception to HMP&YOI Stoke Heath all prisoners are seen by a member of the primary care team and a health screening questionnaire is completed within the system 1 electronic clinical record.. Depending on the outcome of the assessment a referral can be made at this point to primary mental health services or the GP, and / or an Assessment Care in Custody and Teamwork (ACCT) document can be opened. Information received from sending establishments, court, or escort services should be consulted when making a decision to refer. A prisoner with less severe need can be highlighted to wing staff, chaplaincy or other non- health staff for specific interventions.

6.2 Each prison has a Safer Custody/ Safer Communities Team with broad multi-disciplinary membership, chaired by a governor, and their role is to ensure compliance with prison standards on self harm and suicide. The team utilise the ACCT document to assess prisoners identified at risk of self harm or suicide.

7. Referral to Primary Mental Health Services

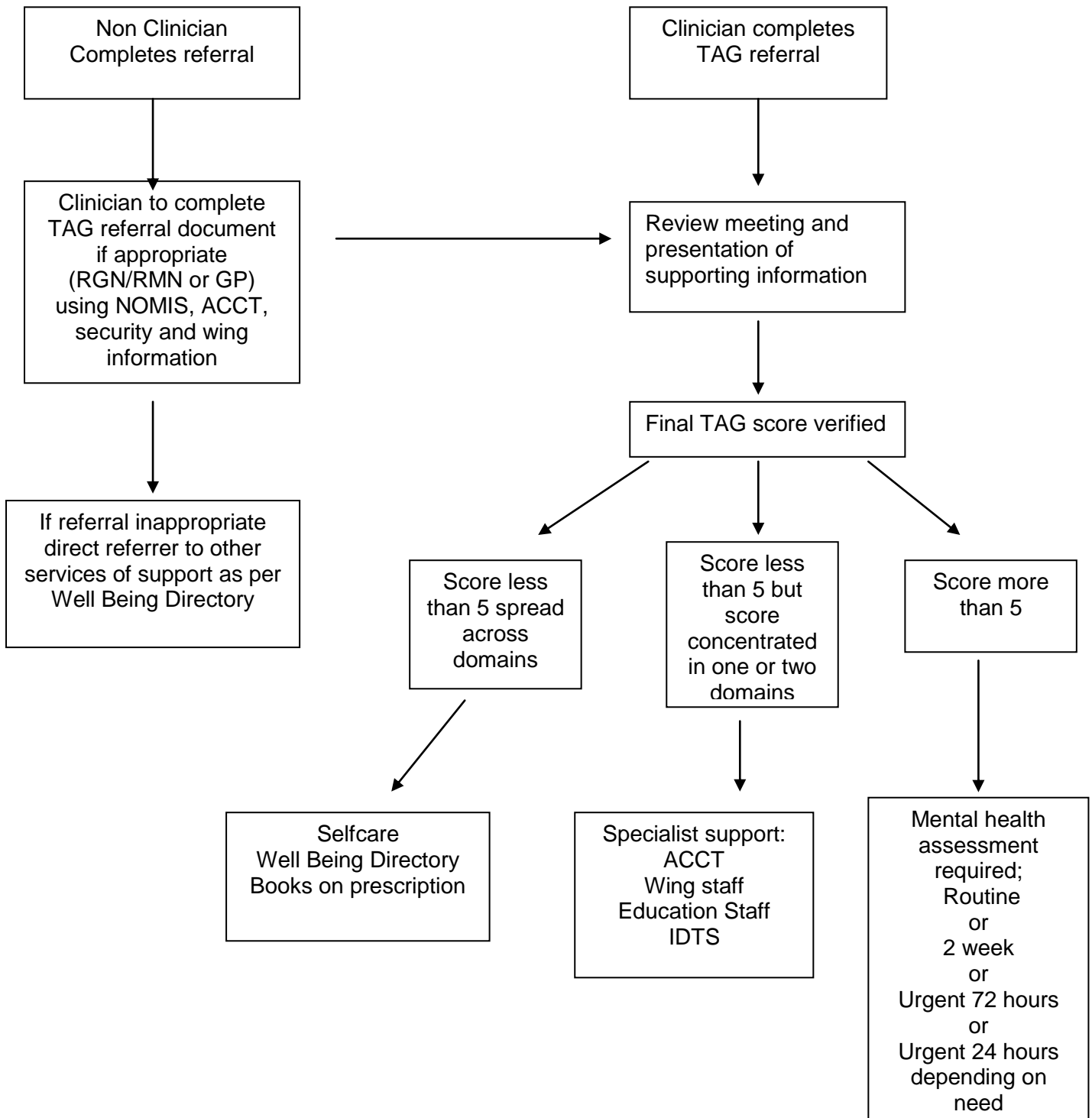
7.1 The referral process is uncomplicated and non-discriminatory to ensure that access to the service is not prohibitive in any way. Any concerned person can refer an individual prisoner to primary care services, with clinical staff using the Threshold Assessment Card (TAG) referral form (Appendix 2) which provides an assessment of risk, and other staff having the ability to refer directly without necessarily using the TAG. Stocks of TAG referral forms are held electronically and paper copies are also available on wings.

7.2 All referrals to the primary care team will be triaged for risk by a mental health nurse. Prisoners in the segregation unit and in immediate crisis may also need same day intervention. This immediate triage will be recorded in the patient's clinical record for audit purposes.

7.3 All referrals will be reviewed on a regular basis, at which all non- emergency referrals will be discussed and allocated to the appropriate stepped care level. Background information such as psychiatric reports, previous medical history, information from probation, previous ACCTs opened information from wing staff and security information will also be sourced during this meeting to ensure that as full a history as possible is obtained regarding the referral to ensure correct disposal. Any specific queries can also be discussed with the In-Reach Team at the weekly joint meeting if additional information is required.

7.4 Information from the paper TAG referral or other referral will be entered onto the electronic patient record (EPR) System One clinical record after it has been reviewed.

7.5 Referrals discussed at the meeting are allocated as:



8. Primary Mental Health Assessment

8.1 During the review meeting all mental health assessments will be prioritised as urgent (see within 24 hours), urgent (see within 72 hours), 2 week wait or routine depending on the TAG assessment and supply of information. These details will be entered onto the System One waiting list following the referral meeting by the primary mental health nurses attending the meeting. Monitoring of the waiting list, and of waiting times, will be via clinical audit and operational meetings.

8.2 The primary mental health assessment will be completed using the TAG assessment template on System One. If it is not possible to complete the assessment during one session, or if the patient is difficult to engage, the mental health summary sheet will be completed at the end of each appointment until the assessment document is completed.

8.3 All assessed patients accepted for primary care services will be placed on the assessing clinician's System One caseload and an appropriate care plan formulated. This may include all interventions at steps 1 and 2 of the pathway, and/ or referral to the GP for discussion of medication as per step 3.

8.4 Following assessment it may be necessary for the patient to be referred to the secondary care (In-reach) team and this should be carried out as per the instructions in section 9.

9. The Role of the General Practitioner

9.1 General Practitioners (GPs) hold routine clinics to identify and treat common health problems and facilitate referral to specialist services when indicated. These routinely include the identification and treatment of mild to moderate mental health problems/illness, including anxiety and depressive disorders. Prison-based GPs also work in partnership with primary mental healthcare staff to provide more comprehensive interventions to address mental, physical and social needs. Out of hours care is provided by Shropdoc, accessed via Princess Royal Hospital.

9.2 Primary care GPs and In-Reach services work in collaboration to provide seamless service provision. Patients under the care of the psychiatrist are managed by the prison In-Reach team, with the GP providing prescribing services and information. The team supports the primary care GP and provides more complex treatment options. The In-Reach team then facilitates transfer of care back to the GP when clinically appropriate.

9.3 There are a number of issues relating to prescribing in mental illness which are specific to the prison environment and these are outlined more fully in guidance from the Royal College of General Practitioners Secure Environments Group. In general there are specific issues of abuse, trading and misrepresentation of symptoms which must be borne in mind by the prescribing GP when formulating a treatment plan for an individual. Guidance from the primary mental health team nursing staff can be helpful in order to access specific security or risk information relating to individuals.

10. Secondary mental health services

10.1 The Shropshire Prisons In-Reach Team provides assessment and treatment services for those with serious and enduring mental health needs in prison, including facilitating the transfer of prisoners with severe mental health problems to external hospital facilities. The team also liaises with other agencies and the wider NHS to establish services for those leaving prison. The team employs psychiatrists, nurses, a social worker and occupational therapists and they work closely with primary care clinicians and prison staff to ensure that seamless services are provided to patients.

11. Referral to secondary mental health services

11.1 There are no specific exclusion criteria for referral to prison In-Reach services, and appropriateness of referrals in relation to mental illness or mental disorder is discussed at the team's multi-disciplinary allocations meeting held weekly.

11.2 In general prisoners accessing In-reach services may be individuals with severe and enduring mental illness (subject to or eligible for CPA care programme approach), those who are currently under the care of, or who have been recently discharged from, community mental health services, individuals who have a dual diagnosis where the primary diagnosis is a major mental illness and those individuals who have been diagnosed with a depressive or anxiety related illness that has not responded to treatment by the primary care team. Also eligible may be those individuals who have a personality disorder with severely impaired functioning and/or who are at risk of significant self harm requiring short term crisis intervention, and those individuals for whom the primary mental health team require advice regarding management of acute mental health needs.

11.3 Direct referral to the prison In-Reach team can be made by;
Prison primary mental health staff
In-Reach services at other prisons
Community mental health teams and other secondary services
Court diversion schemes
Prison GP

Any other member of staff will refer to primary care services in the first instance and this referral will be discussed and allocated in the usual way.

11.4 All referrals to In-reach services are made via the CC1 document which is sent directly to the team via the electronic medical record (system 1) and a electronic task is also sent to confirm receipt of the referral.

11.5 Referrals to the In-Reach team are discussed at the weekly team allocations meeting. Acceptance into the service is followed up with a letter to the referrer. All patients suitable who have been accepted into the service, but who are waiting for their first appointment, will be reviewed regularly by the primary care team at a timescale decided jointly, to ensure that risk is managed in the interim period. Any issues during this interim period can be discussed with the In-Reach team and advice sought if necessary.

11.6 Any patient whose care is being managed by the primary care team whilst waiting for a first appointment with the In-Reach team, and who suffers a deterioration in presentation, should be jointly discussed at the first opportunity so that reprioritisation can be carried out if necessary. This should be done by direct contact with the in-reach team and a follow up electronic task from system 1 clinical record. The primary care worker must highlight the current level of risk, and reasons why the priority level has changed.

12. Discharge from services

12.1 Prisoners may follow a number of pathways through mental health services, being referred to primary care, on to secondary care and back to primary care again a number of times during their sentence. All such transitions through services should be managed carefully in order to mitigate risk to as full an extent as possible.

12.2-Reach services may discharge patients back to primary care mental health services once their period of assessment and intervention is complete. In this instance the discharge plan will be discussed at the weekly referral meeting to ensure a smooth transition, and the In-Reach service will initially be available for advice and guidance. If the prisoner is transferred to another prison establishment the In-Reach team will contact the team at the receiving prison either prior to or as soon as possible after transfer to carry out a formal handover of care. All care will be documented within the electronic clinical record.

12.3 The primary care team may discharge patients from their caseload once a period of assessment and intervention is over, or when the prisoner is discharged from custody or transferred to another prison establishment. Discharged prisoners will receive a letter summarising their contact with the primary mental health team to give to their GP on release, along with contact details in case further information is sought. All clinical records for prisoners being transferred must be updated before the transfer takes place so that receiving teams are aware of the care plan being followed.

12.4 All prisoners being discharged from the primary mental health caseload can be flagged up to wing staff if this is felt to be appropriate.

13. Cognitive Assessments

13.1 The purpose of carrying out cognitive assessments is to identify older prisoners with cognitive impairment and to screen for the presence of dementia. This ensures that those prisoners identified with problems receive appropriate support and care.

13.2 All prisoners referred to the primary mental health team who are over the age of 65 years will to be referred to the older prisoner mental health nurse for cognitive assessment. At the first appointment a mini mental state examination (MMSE) will be carried out with the prisoners consent.

14. Information Sharing

All staff must adhere to the guidelines as outlined in Shropshire Community Health NHS Trusts Consent policy.

15. Dissemination and Implementation

15.1 All Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust staff will be trained to complete TAG referrals during their induction and this training will be refreshed annually. Mental health clinicians who complete TAG assessments will receive training on completion of the assessment during induction and again if any aspect of the assessment process receives a policy change thereafter. Prison staff who access Mental Health Awareness training will receive information on how to complete a TAG referral during the session.

All Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust will receive mandatory training in relation to the Mental Capacity Act.

16. Consultation

16.1 The following stakeholders were consulted during the preparation of this pathway:

Wendy Sweeney	Clinical Nurse Manager, Stoke Heath
Kerry Davani	Team Leader, Stoke Heath
Dr J Khan	Prison GP
Alexis Fairclough	Clinical/ Operational Lead Prison In-Reach Team, SSSFT
John Huntington	Governor, Stoke Heath
Primary Care Mental Health team nurses E Pearce, L. Price, A Robertson, M. Ede and S. Daniels	

17. Monitoring Compliance

15.1 Compliance with this pathway will be monitored by internal clinical audit and through internal and external inspection.

18. Associated Documents

Shropshire Community Health Trust Policy – Consent to examination or treatment policy.

19. References

Prison Service Order 3100

South Staffordshire and Shropshire Foundation Trust In-Reach Operational Policy

Department of Health and National Institute for Mental Health England (2005)
Offender Mental Health Pathway. London: Department of Health.

Prison Service Order 2700

Montford, L. (2004) "Using an assessment tool for mental health team referral".
Nursing Times, 100 (22):38

Offender Health Consultancy Service (2004) Guidance for Information Management
in Prisons. London: OHCS

Royal College of General Practitioners Secure Environments Group. – see RCGP
website.

20. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Brief Reference Guide- Mental Health Stepped Care Model

Appendix 2 - Threshold Assessment Grid

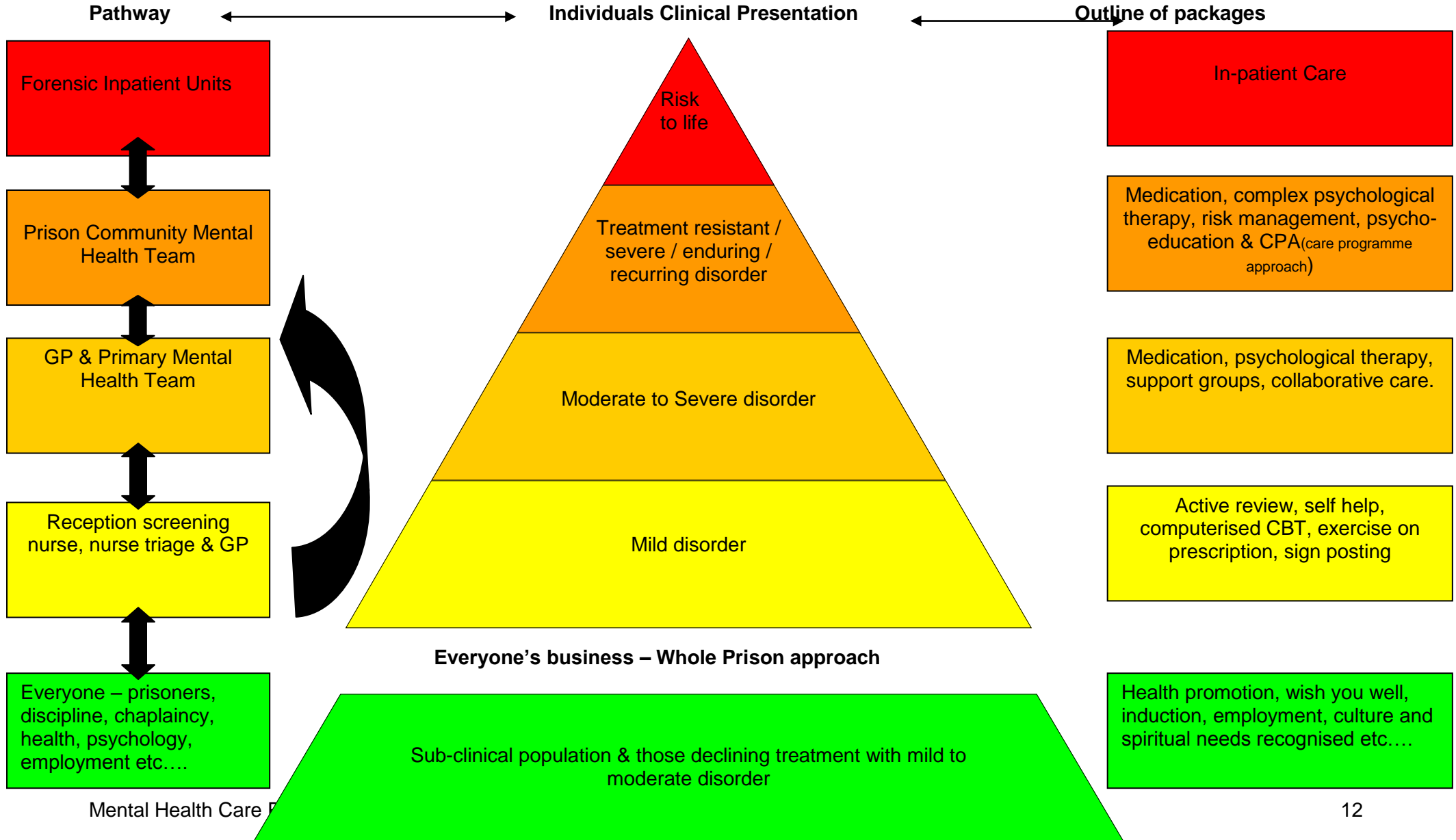
Appendix 3 - Discharge Information Form

Appendix 4 - Letter to Referrer

Appendix 5 - Well Being Directory Shropshire Prisons

Appendix 1

Brief Quick reference guide - Mental Health Stepped Care Model



THRESHOLD ASSESSMENT GRID (TAG)

SCORE SHEET

TAG ASSESSES THE SEVERITY OF A PERSON'S MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

For each domain (numbered 1 to 7), tick ONE statement that best applies to the person being assessed. There should be a total of 7 ticks on the completed grid (one for each domain). Then for each level of severity (e.g. None, Very Severe) add the number of ticks and record in the box at the bottom of the column. 'Very Severe' is only available for domains where life-saving emergency action by specialist mental health teams maybe required. The checklists overleaf provide some guidance on the issues to consider when assessing each domain - they are not intended to be prescriptive. Further information on the TAG is available from www.ioip.kcl.ac.uk/pnism/tag.

		NONE	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE	VERY SEVERE	
SAFETY	Domain 1 Intentional self harm	No concerns about risk of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt <input type="radio"/>	Minor concerns about risk of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt <input type="radio"/>	Definite indicators of risk of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt <input type="radio"/>	High risk to physical safety as a result of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt <input type="radio"/>	Immediate risk to physical safety as a result of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt <input type="radio"/>	
	Domain 2 Unintentional self harm	No concerns about unintentional risk to physical safety <input type="radio"/>	Minor concerns about unintentional risk to physical safety <input type="radio"/>	Definite indicators of unintentional risk to physical safety <input type="radio"/>	High risk to physical safety as a result of self-neglect, unsafe behaviour or inability to maintain a safe environment <input type="radio"/>		
RISK	Domain 3 Risk from others	No concerns about risk of abuse or exploitation from other individuals or society <input type="radio"/>	Minor concerns about risk of abuse or exploitation from other individuals or society <input type="radio"/>	Definite risk of abuse or exploitation from other individuals or society <input type="radio"/>	Positive evidence of abuse or exploitation from other individuals or society <input type="radio"/>		
	Domain 4 Risk to others	No concerns about risk to physical safety or property of others <input type="radio"/>	Antisocial behaviour <input type="radio"/>	Risk to property and/or minor risk to physical safety of others <input type="radio"/>	High risk to physical safety of others as a result of dangerous behaviour <input type="radio"/>	Immediate risk to physical safety of others as a result of dangerous behaviour <input type="radio"/>	
NEEDS AND DISABILITIES	Domain 5 Survival	No concerns about basic amenities, resources or living skills <input type="radio"/>	Minor concerns about basic amenities, resources or living skills <input type="radio"/>	Marked lack of basic amenities, resources or living skills <input type="radio"/>	Serious lack of basic amenities, resources or living skills <input type="radio"/>	Life-threatening lack of basic amenities, resources or living skills <input type="radio"/>	
	Domain 6 Psychological	No disabling or distressing problems with thinking, feeling or behaviour <input type="radio"/>	Minor disabling or distressing problems with thinking, feeling or behaviour <input type="radio"/>	Disabling or distressing problems with thinking, feeling or behaviour <input type="radio"/>	Very disabling or distressing problems with thinking, feeling or behaviour <input type="radio"/>		
	Domain 7 Social	No disabling problems with activities or in relationships with other people <input type="radio"/>	Minor disabling problems with activities or in relationships with other people <input type="radio"/>	Disabling problems with activities or in relationships with other people <input type="radio"/>	Very disabling problems with activities or in relationships with other people <input type="radio"/>		
No. of ticks							TAG score
TAG score		0 points for each None rating: 0	1 point for each Mild rating:	2 points for each Moderate:	3 points for each Severe:	4 points for each V. Severe:	

THRESHOLD ASSESSMENT GRID (TAG)

C H E C K L I S T S F O R G U I D A N C E

Also consider any other aspects which are relevant. The tick-boxes are provided for optional use to identify concerns, but the TAG rating is made on the score sheet.

1. Intentional Self Harm	2. Unintentional Self Harm	3. Risk From Others	4. Risk To Others
<p><i>Individual factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> expressing suicidal intent <input type="checkbox"/> clear plan <input type="checkbox"/> available means <input type="checkbox"/> preparations <input type="checkbox"/> hopelessness <input type="checkbox"/> no confidant, e.g. partner, friends, professionals <input type="checkbox"/> poor coping resources <input type="checkbox"/> lack of blocks to self-harm <p><i>Consider risk factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> past history of deliberate self-harm <input type="checkbox"/> (i) alcohol/drug abuse OR (ii) diagnosis (e.g. depression, schizophrenia, personality disorder) <input type="checkbox"/> (i) AND (ii) = increased risk <input type="checkbox"/> physical illness/disability <input type="checkbox"/> recent GP contact <input type="checkbox"/> recent psychiatric hospitalisation <input type="checkbox"/> recent loss <input type="checkbox"/> no friends/family <input type="checkbox"/> living alone <input type="checkbox"/> unskilled worker <input type="checkbox"/> unemployment <input type="checkbox"/> older people <input type="checkbox"/> male (especially young males) 	<p><i>Consider self-neglect:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> lack of self-care <input type="checkbox"/> not eating or drinking appropriately <p><i>Consider unsafe behaviour:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> not seeking help for problems posing risk <input type="checkbox"/> refusing appropriate help e.g. not taking medication <input type="checkbox"/> not claiming benefits <input type="checkbox"/> lack of awareness of own safety in home e.g. fire risk <input type="checkbox"/> risky sexual behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> substance misuse <input type="checkbox"/> wandering <p><i>Consider the inability to maintain a safe environment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> unable to manage accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> not paying rent <input type="checkbox"/> running up debts 	<p><i>Consider different types of abuse or exploitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> physical <input type="checkbox"/> sexual <input type="checkbox"/> emotional <input type="checkbox"/> racial <input type="checkbox"/> financial <input type="checkbox"/> neglect <p><i>Consider risk from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> staff <input type="checkbox"/> relatives <input type="checkbox"/> friends <input type="checkbox"/> neighbours <input type="checkbox"/> strangers <input type="checkbox"/> treatments <p><i>Consider risk of abuse by carer:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> severe stress <input type="checkbox"/> mental illness/alcohol /drug abuse in carer <input type="checkbox"/> carer refusing help <input type="checkbox"/> history of abuse by or to carer <p><i>Consider risk from society:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> history of abusive/exploitative relationships <input type="checkbox"/> harassment from public <input type="checkbox"/> use of home by unwanted others <input type="checkbox"/> inadequate home security <input type="checkbox"/> fear of retaliation for reporting abuse 	<p><i>Consider risk to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> children & other dependents <input type="checkbox"/> partners <input type="checkbox"/> carers <input type="checkbox"/> staff <input type="checkbox"/> neighbours <input type="checkbox"/> strangers <p><i>Consider risk factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> current threats, especially to a named person <input type="checkbox"/> history of violence to people/property <input type="checkbox"/> carer's concern <input type="checkbox"/> access to weapons <input type="checkbox"/> no blocks to violence e.g. fear of consequences <input type="checkbox"/> history of arson <input type="checkbox"/> unemployment <input type="checkbox"/> drug/alcohol abuse <input type="checkbox"/> stress <input type="checkbox"/> voices telling person to harm someone <input type="checkbox"/> paranoia <input type="checkbox"/> risky sexual behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> anti-social behaviour e.g. unsafe driving <input type="checkbox"/> lack of information about person's history <input type="checkbox"/> no trusting relationship with professionals
<p>5. Survival</p> <p><i>Consider whether the person has problems with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a home <input type="checkbox"/> heating for the home <input type="checkbox"/> essential amenities (e.g. washing facilities, toilet, cooker, bed) <input type="checkbox"/> the ability to look after their home <input type="checkbox"/> the ability to keep adequately clean and tidy <input type="checkbox"/> enough food & fluids <input type="checkbox"/> clothing <input type="checkbox"/> enough money to live on <input type="checkbox"/> mobility <input type="checkbox"/> the ability to use public transport <input type="checkbox"/> the ability to cope with physical health problems 	<p>6. Psychological</p> <p><i>Consider:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> overactive, aggressive, disruptive or agitated behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> problems with hallucinations & delusions <input type="checkbox"/> cognitive problems with memory, orientation & understanding <input type="checkbox"/> mood problems e.g. depressed, manic, anxious <input type="checkbox"/> problems with reading or writing <input type="checkbox"/> a lack of coping strategies <input type="checkbox"/> attitude to problems <input type="checkbox"/> help seeking behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> spiritual problems <input type="checkbox"/> feelings of alienation 	<p>7. Social</p> <p><i>Consider problems in relationships with others:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> lack of ability to make or maintain friendships <input type="checkbox"/> lack of supportive relationships <input type="checkbox"/> lack of intimate relationship <input type="checkbox"/> sexual problems <input type="checkbox"/> communication problems <input type="checkbox"/> unable to handle daily hassles <p><i>Consider problems in activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> leisure <input type="checkbox"/> unpaid work <input type="checkbox"/> paid work <input type="checkbox"/> education <input type="checkbox"/> travel <input type="checkbox"/> lack of personally meaningful life 	

Further information on the Threshold Assessment Grid is available from www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/prism/tag

THRESHOLD ASSESSMENT GRID (TAG)

FURTHER GUIDANCE

PURPOSE OF TAG

TAG is a brief assessment of the severity of an individual's mental health problems. Instructions for completing it are contained on the score sheet, and this page provides further guidance. TAG is very easy to complete, requiring seven ticks on the Score Sheet. It is rated by staff for people who have (or are believed to have) mental health problems. Information on diagnosis should be recorded separately, if required.

TAG can be used in different ways, including:

- by GPs and other agencies (e.g. social services) who think someone has mental health problems and want to refer to a specialist mental health team - by appending a TAG to their referral letter, specialist mental health services will be helped to prioritise those most in need of help.
- to give a means of agreeing between agencies at what point in the care system people should receive help - this might be done by locally agreeing thresholds for referral.
- as a routine outcome measure for patients on the caseload of a mental health team
- to give commissioners a means of specifying the way in which community mental health teams are to focus on the severely mentally ill

COMPLETING TAG

TAG has seven domains covering the areas of **Safety** (two domains), **Risk** (two domains), and **Needs and Disabilities** (three domains). In each domain on the Score Sheet, you should tick one box, to indicate the rating of severity for that domain (ranging from 'None' to 'Very Severe'). A checklist is provided for each domain, to indicate some of the important aspects to consider. The checklists are based on evidence and current practice, but must be used in conjunction with clinical judgement. If an aspect which is relevant to the person is not on the checklist, it should still inform the ratings made.

The rating chosen should be the one that best applies to the person being assessed. The time frame is not specified, since problems (e.g. violence) may only occasionally occur, but still be ongoing causes of concern. As a general guide, however, consider problems in the last month, but also include current concerns which originate from before this period.

Example - Domain 1. Intentional Self-Harm

Looking across the row, if *High risk to physical safety as a result of deliberate self-harm or suicide attempt* is the statement that best applies to the person, then tick this box. This rating is classified as 'Severe' (shown at the top of the grid).

When all seven domains have been ticked (once in each domain), the assessment is complete. If desired, the number of ticks for each column can be recorded in the first row at the bottom. (The total should then add up to seven). *Example: if there are three ticks in the 'Severe' column, write '3' in the box at the bottom of the 'Severe' column.* Also, if desired, the TAG score can be calculated, by recording the total weighted score for each domain (e.g. 2 points for each Moderate rating) in the second row at the bottom, and then adding those scores together. The maximum TAG score is 24.

HOW TO USE A TAG ASSESSMENT

The two rows at the bottom of the Score Sheet indicate the severity of mental health problems. 445 TAG referrals to mental health services across London were analysed to provide *guidance* on referral thresholds. If the goal is to ensure that all referrals are suitable, then a threshold of at least 1 severe or very severe domain will ensure that 95% of referrals are suitable, but 74% of referrals not meeting this criterion will in fact be suitable - a high false negative rate. If the concern is to ensure that all suitable referrals are offered assessment, then using a threshold TAG score of 3 or more will ensure that 91% of suitable referrals are identified. However, 80% of unsuitable referrals will also meet this criterion - a high false positive rate. The best cut-off is found using either a TAG score of 5 or more, or at least 2 moderate domains.

Example: A team may agree with its referrers that a TAG will be completed for all referrals, and that the team will assess anyone referred with a Very Severe rating within 24 hours, with 2 or more Severe ratings within 72 hours, and anyone else with at least 2 Moderate rating within 2 weeks. For patients with less than 2 Moderate ratings, the referral letter will state why the patient's mental health problems are of a severity to warrant specialist mental health service.

Further information on the Threshold Assessment Grid is available from www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/prism/tag

**CONFIDENTIAL – PRIMARY MENTAL HEALTH TEAM
 DISCHARGE INFORMATION FORM**

Patient Name: _____ Referrers Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Date of Referral: _____
 Prison Number / nhs number: _____ Home GP: _____
 Current Location: _____ Home Address: _____
 Prison: _____
 Supported by: _____ From: _____ To: _____
 Reason for referral to team:

Number of sessions/contacts:

- Reason for discharge:**
- No further sessions needed: No further sessions needed referral left open for 8 weeks not booked further appointments:
- Did not attend further f/up sessions: Did not book further f/up session:
 Reminder Letter sent:.....
- Cancelled appointment did not book further follow up session: Cancelled appointment no further session needed:
- Intervention provided if applicable:
 Sign posted to: _____ Referral to:
 Advice & Information: Self Help:
 Supportive Counselling: CBT:

Medication trialed:

Current Medication:

Other/Comments, to include any risk information:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Diagnosis:

.....
.....

Measurement Tool:

Start Score:

End Score:

Signed:

Discharge Date:

Print Name:

Copied to Home GP:

Mini Mental State Examination-

The MMSE is a brief 30-point questionnaire which assesses orientation, memory, arithmetic and written and verbal language skills.

A cognitive score of 25-30 would be considered normal and prisoners scoring this would be routinely screened again in 12 months.

A cognitive score below 25 would indicate some degree of cognitive impairment. Prisoners scoring below 25 will be referred to the older prisoners nurse (RGN) for a physical assessment. The older prisoners' mental health nurse will also carry out a full mental health assessment.

Assessment scores of between 21 and 24 indicate mild cognitive impairment. The care of prisoners identified with mild cognitive impairment will be discussed at a shared care meeting involving the older prisoner mental health nurse, discipline staff, disability liaison officer, older prisoner nurse and chaplaincy.

Prisoners with mild cognitive impairment will be placed on to the case load of the older prisoner mental health nurse and be seen for regular reviews at least every 6 months.

A cognitive score of 10-20 points would indicate moderate impairment and a cognitive score of 9 or less would indicate severe impairment.

The older prisoners mental health nurse will arrange an urgent multidisciplinary meeting for any prisoners scoring 20 or below, in order that a shared care plan can be set up to support the prisoner. All prisoners scoring 20 or below will be immediately referred to secondary mental health services.

WELL BEING DIRECTORY

SHROPSHIRE PRISON AND
BEYOND

Where to go for help and advice within HMPYOI Stoke Heath Healthcare.

- **Physical health issues**
- **Mental health issues**
- **GP**
- **Dentist**
- **Optician**
- **Sexual health advisor**
- **Chlamydia screening**
- **Vaccinations**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **PALS**
- **Advice and help about any issue that affects your health**
- **AXIS - specialist counselling**
- **Podiatry**
- **Books on prescription.**

Gym

- **Physical fitness**
- **Cardio Vascular Exercise**
- **Weights training**
- **Team sports**
- **Fitness Courses**
- **Sports qualifications**
- **First Aid Course**
- **Exercise on prescription**
- **Treatment of injuries group**

Forward Trust / Substance misuse services

- **Substance misuse issues - past and present**
- **Substance misuse courses**
- **Relapse prevention**
- **IDTS**

Chaplaincy

- **Spiritual well-being**
- **Multi faith worship**
- **Bereavement issues**
- **Family issues**

- **Chapel visits**
- **Advocacy**
- **Advice and guidance about issues that affect well-being**

Education

- **Vocational qualifications**
- **Educational qualifications**
- **Variety of subjects to learn and enjoy**
- **Help with resettlement**
- **Career advise**

Offender Management Unit

- **Employment**
- **Education**
- **Courses**
- **Qualifications**
- **Resettlement**
- **Housing issues**
- **ROTL**
- **External work placements**
- **NACRO**
- **Probation**
- **Liaison with external agencies**
- **Offender supervisors**

Residential wing staff

- **Help and advice on prison life**
- **Sentence planning**
- **Applications**
- **Employment**
- **Financial issues**
- **Resettlement**

Safer Communities

- **Individual support.**

Samaritans / Listeners

- **Help and advice on prison life**
- **Support and guidance**

- Peers to talk to in confidence

Health Issues outside prison.

GP / Practice Nurse / Dentist / Optician

You can register with a GP, Dentist and Optician through:

NHS Direct

Tel: 08454647

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

NHS Choices

www.nhs.uk/servicesdirectories

The Patients Association Helpline

Tel: 08456084455

Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS)

www.pals.nhs.uk

Yellow Pages

Tel: 118247

www.yell.com

Abuse

Anti Bullying Network

www.antibullying.net

AXIS

Tel: 01743 357777

www.axis-counselling.co.uk

Beat Bullying

Tel: 02087713377

www.beatbullying.org

Bullying UK

www.bullying.co.uk

Child line

Tel: 0800 11 11

Help for Adult victims of child abuse

www.havoca.org.uk

Hidden Hurt

www.hiddenhurt.co.uk

Mankind

Tel: 01823 334244

www.mankind.org.uk

NSPCC (help for adult's line)

Tel: 0808 800 5000

www.nspcc.org.uk

Support line

Tel: 01708 765200

www.supportline.org.uk

Support for male victims of domestic violence

Tel: 0808 801 0327

www.mensadviseline.org.uk

Bereavement

Bereavement Advice Centre

Tel: 0800 634 9494

www.bereavementadvice.org

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 0844 848 9600

www.adviceguide.co.uk

Cruse Bereavement care

Tel: 0844 477 9400

www.crusebereavementcare.org

The Miscarriage Association

Tel: 01924 200799

www.miscarriageassociation.org.uk

Education and Employment

Adult learning

www.direct.gov.uk

Apex

Tel: 0870 608 4567

www.apextrust.com

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 0844 848 9600

www.adviceguide.co.uk

Employment opportunities (for people with disabilities looking for employment)

Tel: 020 7448 5420

www.opportunities.org.uk

Get on Helpline

Tel: 0800 66 0800

www.geton.direct.gov.uk

Job centre plus

www.jobseekers.direct.gov.uk

Learn Direct

Tel: 0800 101 901

www.learnirect.co.uk

Open University

Tel: 0845 300 60 90

www.open.ac.uk

Exercise and Fitness

Fit Map

www.thefitmap.com

Ramblers Association

Tel: 020 7339 8500

www.ramblers.co.uk

Sport England

www.sportengland.org

Fit 4 Life

www.fit4life.co.uk

YMCA

Tel: 020 7070 2160

www.ymcafit.org.uk

Financial Issues

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 0844 848 9600

www.adviceguide.co.uk

Department of Work and Pensions

www.dwp.gov.uk

Job centre plus

www.jobseekers.direct.gov.uk

National Debt line

Tel: 0808 808 4000

www.nationaldebtline.co.uk

Foreign National Issues

Identity and Passport Service

www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Liberty

www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk

Healthy Eating and Diet

British Heart Foundation

Tel: 020 7554 0000

www.bhf.org.uk/keepingyourhearthealthy

Eating Disorder Association

Tel: 0845 634 1414

www.b-eat.co.uk

NHS

www.nhs.uk/livewell

HIV and AIDS

Family Planning Association

Tel: 0845 310 1334

www.fpa.org.uk

Help and Advice for HIV/Aids in UK

www.avert.org

International HIV/Aids alliance

www.aidsalliance.org

NHS

www.nhschoices.co.uk

Terrence Higgins Trust

Tel: 0845 122 1200

www.tht.org.uk

Housing

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 0844 848 9600

www.adviceguide.co.uk

NACRO

Tel: 020 7840 6464

www.nacro.org.uk

Self Help Community Housing Association

Tel: 0845 2700 669

www.selfhelpha.co.uk

Shelter

Tel: 0808 800 4444

www.england.shelter.org.uk

Leaving Prison Support

Action for Prisoners Families

Tel: 020 8812 3600

www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk

Apex

Tel: 0870 608 4567

www.apextrust.com

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 0844 848 9600

www.adviceguide.co.uk

NACRO

Tel: 020 7840 6464

www.nacro.org.uk

New Bridge Foundation

Tel: 020 7976 0779

www.newbridgefoundation.org.uk

PACT

Tel: 0808 808 2003

www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Offenders helpline

Tel: 0808 808 2003

www.offendersfamilieshelpline.org.uk

UNLOCK

www.unlock.org.uk

Military (ex-servicemen/ women)

Combat Stress

Tel: 0800 1381619

www.combatstress.org.uk

Royal British Legion

Tel: 0845 7725725

www.britishlegion.org.uk

SPACES (accommodation)

Tel: 01748 833797

SSAFA - forces help

Tel: 0845 1300 975

www.ssafa.org.uk/exservice

Mental Health

Anxiety UK

www.anxietyuk.org.uk

Child line

Tel: 0800 11

Depression Alliance
Tel: 0845 123 23 20
www.depressionalliance.org

Mental Health Foundation
www.mentalhealth.org.uk

MIND
Tel: 0300 123 3393
www.mind.org.uk

No Panic
Tel: 0808 808 0545
www.nopanic.org.uk

Rethink
Tel: 0300 5000 927
www.rethink.org

Samaritans
Tel: 08457 90 90 90

Sane
Tel: 0845 767 8000
www.sane.org.uk

Parenting and Family Matters

Childline
Tel: 0800 11 11

Child Support Agency
Tel: 08457 133 133

Divorce Aid
www.divorceaid.co.uk

Families need fathers
Tel: 0300 0300 363
www.fnf.org.uk

Gingerbread
Tel : 0808 802 0925
www.gingerbread.org.uk

Parentline Plus
Tel: 0808 800 2222
www.parentlineplus.org.uk/support

Prisoners Families Helpline
Tel: 0808 808 2003
www.prisonersfamilieshelpline.org.uk

Relate
Tel: 0300 100 1234
www.relate.org.uk

Religion and Spiritual needs.

The Buddhist Society
Tel: 020 7834 5858
www.thebuddhistsociety.org

Catholic Communications Network
Tel: 020 7630 8220
www.catholicchurch.org.uk

Church of England
Tel: 020 7898 1000
www.churchofengland.org

Hindu Council UK
Tel: 020 8840 8844
www.hinducounciluk.org

Spiritualist association of Great Britain.
Tel: 020 7931 6488
www.sagb.org.uk

The Methodist Church in Britain
www.methodist.org.uk

Muslims In
www.muslimsIn.com

Sikhs in England
Tel: 07958 946 868
www.sikhs.org.uk

YMCA

Tel: 020 7070 2160

www.ymca.org.uk

Sexual Health

Brook (for under 25's)

Tel: 0808 802 1234

www.brook.org.uk

Family Planning Association

Tel: 0845 310 1334

www.fpa.org.uk

R U thinking

www.ruthinking.co.uk

Sexual Health Line

Tel: 0800 567 123

Sexuality

Bisexuality Support Group

www.dailystrength.org

The Lesbian and Gay Foundation

Tel: 0845 330 3030

www.lgf.org.uk

Support line

Tel: 020 8554 9004

www.supportline.org.uk

UK Transgender resources

www.transgenderzone.com

Smoking Cessation

NHS

Tel: 0800 022 4332

www.smokefree.nhs.uk

NHS - Smoking Helpline

Tel: 0800 169 0169

Quitline

Tel: 0800 00 22 00

www.quit.org.uk

Substance Misuse

Addaction

www.addaction.org.uk

Adfam

Tel: 0207 553 7640

www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Anonymous

Tel: 0845 769 7555

www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

Alcohol Concern 6pm – 11pm daily

Tel: 0800 917 8282

www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

British Liver Trust

Tel: 01473 276 326

Drugs Line

Tel: 0808 1 606 606

www.drugline.org

Frank

Tel: 0800 77 66 00

www.talktofrank.com

Prisoners Families Helpline

Tel: 0808 808 2003

www.prisonersfamilieshelpline.org.uk

Release

Tel: 0845 4500 215

www.release.org.uk