- ways of developing and maintaining emotional wellbeing, self-help and support to carers
- an understanding of the range of mental health diagnostic condition, inter-relationship between physical and mental health and service pathways that exist
- an appreciation of the strengths and limitations of the evidence-base (See ‘Cases for Change’ for adult services)

- information about demographic characteristics relevant to mental health and learning disability and the range of data that can be accessed
- knowledge of funding mechanisms (e.g. Payment systems and Personal health budgets including user views)

- outcome measurement
- values-based practice and quality standards
- high-quality contracting (specimen draft contracts [WORD docs] for adult services are available)

National Mental Health Dementia & Neurology Intelligence Network (website - provides access to information drawn from many data sources)

Crisis Concordat (website - for declarations and information)
Mental Health Partnerships (website of commissioning resources and good practice examples)

Better Care Fund (webpage)

Mental Health Commissioners Network

HSJ article – 10 tips for commissioning mental health services: Dr Phil Moore is a GP, chair of primary care at the London Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network and deputy chair of Kingston CCG, and Stefanie Radford is senior project manager at the London Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network

1. Local champions drive forward implementation. A consistent, passionate figure who is around for the long haul has been key to seeing change in many areas. Such leaders are able to influence local authorities and the voluntary sector, working with people who use services

2. Effective health and wellbeing boards can be enormously helpful. If the HWB gets behind mental health change it can enable rapid transformation. If it does not, a champion will keep pushing the agenda.

3. Primary care education and training will enable change. A successful primary care service will have professionals who are competent and confident. These are qualities looked for by patients and secondary care colleagues.

4. Money needs to move with the patient. Capacity also needs to exist and that will need resources.

5. Co-production will deliver ownership by people who use services and carers, as well as better services. People who use services are best placed to determine what works best. They are amazing allies if their experience can be harnessed.

6. Services need to cover all ages. Transition continues to be a concern. Equally commissioners need to act across their boundaries (such as mental health and children, primary and specialised).

7. A mosaic of services needs to be provided to wrap around individuals and carers.
Some of the best examples have engaged statutory, voluntary and peer groups to provide a broad range of support and designed a hub to guide users to the best support for them at that time.

8. **Specialists’ time should be freed up to look after those with complex needs and to be available for rapid advice and help for primary care.** This is achievable by focusing specialist resource on people with more complex and immediate needs by enabling people with stable conditions to be supported by primary care.

9. **IT enabled communications between primary care and mental health are vital for a fully functioning service.** Experience demonstrates that communication needs to be supported by good IT systems that can function across primary and secondary care. This also improves data about activity, quality and outcomes.

10. **Managing long term conditions.** The best outcomes will be achieved by a holistic approach that covers mental health, physical health and social integration, all with the aim of enabling citizenship. It is time to act and do what the evidence shows.  
*Our guide* will hopefully support and provoke us all to do just that.

Criteria for admission to acute pathway, inpatient care, care programme approach (CPA) and acceptance and discharge from mental health services are described.  
*These criteria should probably be best considered as the starting point for discussion between commissioners, primary care and provider units.*

Care pathways on this site describe 'best practice' care for specific conditions in individual, including local, services and provide links to relevant websites and documentation at points at which they become relevant.

Commissioning the psychosis pathway (Powerpoint slide) - further information to follow from project underway by Imperial Partners.
See Commissioning for Outcomes

There is also a scheme for 2014/5 to provide incentives as for Mental Health Trusts to monitor and improve the health of people with psychosis as a Commissioning for Quality and Innovation payment - see physical health CQUIN.

Resources

The Joint Commissioning Panel (includes service users, carers, British Psychological Society, Royal Colleges of General Practitioners & Psychiatrists) has produced frameworks for service areas & has produced commissioning tools (summary of evidence-base, specimen contracting inserts and a cost-consequence tool) and the following guides with more on the way:

- Practical Mental Health Commissioning - A framework for local authority and NHS commissioners of mental health and wellbeing services
- Primary mental health care
- Dementia
- Liaison services
- CAMHS transitions
- Public mental health
- BME communities

NHS England commissioning guidance (2014) spelling out requirements for spend on mental health (pdf)

Policy

- Five Year Forward View – one year on: NHS Employers has produced a summary,
presentation and infographic to help teams understand what the Five Year Forward View means for health and care.


- Proposed timelines for priority areas – jpg
- Choice in mental health services
- National Audit Office: Mental health services: preparations for improving access
- New NHSCC report shows how CCGs are tackling the challenges of early intervention in mental health - NHS Clinical Commissioners
- NHS England » Chief Executive of largest integrated community and mental health trust appointed as new NHS England National Mental Health Director
- The Journey to Integration – 7 case studies from the Local Government Association
- NHS Providers briefing on MHTF
- CCG Inequality Indicators
- Poverty and mental health. MHF report.
- World Bank
- Better Mental Health For All
- CCG improvement and assessment 2016/17 – comparisons between CCGs on indicators including mental health.
- STPs

- Independent review of deaths of people with a Learning Disability or Mental Health problem in contact with Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust April 2011 to March 2015

- What causes wellness | Sir Harry Burns | TEDxGlasgow - YouTube
- Has Alaska found holy grail of cutting costs and improving healthcare? | Healthcare Professionals Network | The Guardian
- The State of Mental Health in America | Mental Health America
- Stigma stops parents from seeking life-saving mental health support - Royal College of Nursing: Nurses and midwives are calling for greater awareness of mental health during and after pregnancy as a new survey reveals that new parents are experiencing depression or anxiety without professional support because they feel too afraid to seek help

- Improving mental health outcomes for children and young people: The King’s Fund has made available keynote speeches, presentations and highlights from their conference which explored the progress that has been made in transforming mental health services for children and young people. Participants in the community who were not able to attend this event may
find it useful to access [this online summary].
- Place-based systems of care A way forward for the NHS in England - The King’s fund: The NHS in England is facing growing financial and service pressures at a time of rising demand. This [paper] proposes a new approach to tackling these challenges.
- The Health Foundation – person-centred resource centre
- What makes an academic paper useful for health policy? [BMC Medicine | Full Text]
- 'No health without mental health': Department of Health mental health policy with implementation framework

& supporting documents including:

- A toolkit to reduce out of area mental health services
- The economic case for improving efficiency and quality in mental health (DH)
- The Mental Health Strategy, system reforms and spending pressures: what do we know so far? (PDF document) Report from Centre for Mental Health, Mental Health Foundation, Mind and Rethink Mental Illness
- Department of Health: What's New, Dementia & Mental Health & Wellbeing sites: Dementia Commissioning Pack

- Health & Wellbeing Boards
- Choose and Book | Choose and book supporting referrals to mental health services (pdf)

- Yorkshire and Humber health intelligence | Monthly QIPP resource pack (power point)
- NHS Confederation | Joining up health and social care personal budgets: (pdf)
- Parliament | Parity of Esteem for Mental Health: (pdf)
- NHS England | Mental health patients can put services to the test: (article)

Other reports & guidance

- NHS England | Model Specification for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: (pdf)
- Your Britain | The Mentally Health Society | The report of Taskforce on Mental Health in society: (pdf)
- National Alliance of Voluntary sector mental health providers | Healthwatch briefing on first mental health special inquiry (article)
- The Guardian | Five ways to improve mental health care in 2015 |: (article)
- DH/PHE Health Visiting and School Nurse Programme: Supporting implementation of the new service offer: Promoting emotional wellbeing and positive mental health of children and young people (PDF).
- Influencing mental health services: A guide to commissioning services - National Service
User Network (NSUN)
- A Commissioner’s Guide to Primary Care Mental Health (from London Strategic Clinical Network - PDF)
- NICE Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) site
- CCG Leadership programme (link)
- NSUN commissioning standards (pdf)
- Population health systems. Going beyond integrated care
- Invitation to join the #StartTheConversation NHSChangeDay Campaign
- The Costs of Eating Disorders - Social, Health and Economic Impacts (article)
- Completing the revolution. Transforming mental health and tackling poverty (Website).

Report from the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ)
- Commissioning Improving Access to Psychological Treatment (IAPT) services & discussion papers on psychotherapy services (Mizen:Health economics and psychotherapy (Word document) & Developing psychotherapy services (Word document))

- Cost effectiveness of liaison services (NHS Confederation (PDF document) & Centre for Mental Health (PDF document))

- Vocational services for people with severe mental health problems: Commissioning guidance
- Better Mental Health Outcomes for Children and Young People. A RESOURCE DIRECTORY FOR COMMISSIONERS
- Commissioning learning disability services - leaflet (PDF document)
- Commissioning mental health services - leaflet (PDF document)
- London Health Programmes - mental health, child & adolescent services (CAMHS) medically unexplained symptoms & dementia.

- World Health Organisation Mental Health Atlas 2011
- Specimen service specifications (from West Midlands SHA 2009)
- Confidential inquiry into homicides & suicides by mentally ill people
- RAID liaison service economic evaluation
- Mental health and the market. NHS confederation report.
- BITES - evidence summaries (from NIHR CLAHRCs)
- Commissioning Eating Disorder Services - Health Foundation & NHS Sheffield ('Looking
for value ..’ PDF & Day service

- Schizophrenia Commission
- Unscheduled care - NHS Innovations (pdf on website)
- New QIPP cases from NICE
- New Briefings to help develop better local mental health services
- New report: Personalisation and personal budgets can support recovery and transform mental health services
  - Commissioning safe, compassionate care and service redesign
  - West Midlands report on reducing out of area referrals

Centre For Mental Health | Meeting the need: what makes a ‘good’ JSNA for mental health?

Mental wellbeing in Bradford district and Craven: a strategy 2016-2021

Barnsley Director of Public Health Annual Report 2015/16 – innovative and accessible Director of Public Health Annual Report 2015/16

The truth about stress in the NHS - cartoon

If I-Spy books did mental health care – cartoon

The Brexit effect on mental health – cartoon