

Telling our Partnership story

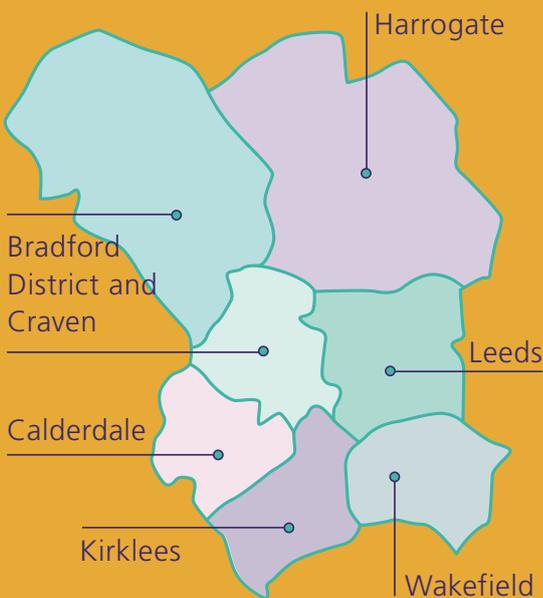


Children and young people receive specialist mental health care closer to home



Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.6 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

Our ambition

We want to reduce the number and length of hospitals bed days for children and young people with mental health problems and provide more care closer to home. A key part of this is reducing waiting times for assessment and care – which we know is high.

What we are doing

- > Mental health providers have reduced the length of stay for children and young people in hospital from 708 days in April 2018 to 536 in September 2018. The money saved has meant we can invest £500k in community services - so more children and young people are cared for closer to home.
- > Mental health care navigators support families and enable health professionals to focus on specialist decision-making.
- > Developing more 'safer spaces' for children and young people in mental health crisis - providing a community alternative to hospital admission and reducing A&E attendance.





- > We received £13m capital investment from NHS England to build a new [Children and Adolescent Mental Health Unit in Leeds](#). This new unit will bring a significant increase and provide 18 specialist places and four psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU) beds. These 'extra' beds are in part due to reallocating hospital beds across the country so that young people receive specialised care nearer to where they live.
- > Our [adult eating disorder service](#) won a national award at the Positive Practice in Mental Health Awards 2018.

What next?

We want a consistent offer of service for crisis/ intensive home based care across the area provided as close to home as possible – so that no matter where a child or young person lives they receive the same level of care and attention.

There are too many children and young people waiting too long to access specialist care and going out of area for care and we want to stop this.

We need more long term funding to help children and young people sooner rather than later so they have better health and wellbeing as adults. Our Partnership will be doing all we can to address this.



Ellie Mae, 17, was admitted one weekend to the West Yorkshire Young People's Unit. She was having a relapse of the psychotic illness she had experienced two years before. She did not want to stay in hospital as long as the last time and her family said they would do all they could to support her at home. The health professionals involved in her care were concerned about this, because when Ellie Mae had been ill before, she had not responded quickly to medication. So they involved the care navigator, who supports other health professionals, and gives support to families as well as the young person. They encouraged them all to talk together, supporting them to think about how they could make sure Ellie Mae received the help she needed, was kept safe, whilst spending less time in hospital. With the extra time and space to reflect, everyone was able to agree with Ellie Mae and her parents, that a two-week admission followed by a seven-day a week support from the early intervention service and mental health intensive home treatment team together was a safe and effective way forward. Most importantly, this has worked well for Ellie Mae. She is back at college and working well with the early intervention service.

**Please note names have been changed*

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A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

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West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Health and Care Partnership

