

PRESS STATEMENT

8 March 2016

Focusing on analysis and solutions

Responding to today's report from the King's Fund <u>Bringing together physical and mental health</u>, Saffron Cordery, director of policy and strategy at NHS Providers, said:

"This report provides an excellent, thorough, and intelligent intervention into the conversation on integrating physical and mental health. It achieves this by focusing on both analysis and solutions.

"Of particular importance are the benefits to patients and service users that the King's Fund report highlights, and the financial savings that can be made by integrating physical and mental health. This is a part of the integration agenda that is often overlooked. However it is fundamental if we are to continue to improve quality and drive through the efficiencies required in these straitened times. The report provides helpful pointers.

"The report also aligns its thinking with the priorities of both the five year forward view and the recent report of the mental health taskforce. This is really helpful. By focusing on issues such as perinatal mental healthcare and the need to make 'parity of esteem' more than a simple catchphrase, this report illustrates the ways in which taking a truly 'whole person approach' can become a reality."

-Ends-

Notes to editors

About NHS Providers

- NHS Providers is the membership organisation for NHS acute hospitals, community, mental health and ambulance services
- NHS Providers acts as the public voice for those NHS trusts, helping to deliver high quality care by promoting shared learning, providing support and development and shaping the strategic system in which our members operate
- NHS Providers has 94% of all NHS foundation trusts and aspirant trusts in membership
- Follow NHS Providers on twitter @NHSProviders and Saffron Cordery @Saffron_Policy
- A full list of NHS Providers' press releases and statements can be viewed in the news section of our homepage www.nhsproviders.org
- Contact Caroline Bernard, head of communications, 07938 524 366