



Dear colleagues,

I am writing to you to update you on the changes that we have had to make at Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (AWP) to maintain urgent mental health services during the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you will no doubt be aware, we are entering what is expected to be the most challenging phase for our healthcare services to date. We are already experiencing high levels of diagnosed COVID-19 in our hospitals and communities. During this time we are focussing on supporting those who need our services most, and supporting our colleagues in the acute hospitals by ensuring we are able to actively and quickly respond to Emergency Departments and our Health Based Places of Safety. As a result we will be temporarily closing to routine referrals. This is not a decision that we have taken lightly, but is necessary to maintain resilience in our essential services.

On Friday 8th January we temporarily closed to routine referrals and will be running a skeleton service within our ADHD and ASD diagnostic services. We would appreciate support from primary care by helping us to prioritise our work to focus on clinically urgent referrals. During this time we will be focusing our resources on critical services including: intensive support/ crisis teams, crisis and urgent referrals, recovery services, PIMH, care home liaison, early intervention services and inpatient services.

Telephone consultations for GPs will still be available through the usual Primary Care Liaison Team contacts (detailed in the table below). If you have any issues obtaining advice and guidance, please email Lucy.Baker8@nhs.net or Georginaruddle@nhs.net who help with escalation. We will review this position on Monday 1st February and will reverse these measures as soon as we are able to.

BSW			
Locality	Team	Email	Phone
BaNES	PCLS	awp.banespclsadmin@nhs.net	01225 362735
Swindon	LD	oriana.morrison-clarke1@nhs.net	01793 715000
Swindon	PCLS	swindonpclsreferrals@nhs.net	01793 835787
North Wilts	PCLS	awp.pclnorthwiltsadminteam@nhs.net	01380 731200
South Wilts	PCLS	patriciahanlon@nhs.net	01722 820372

We are working on revised actions to support people waiting for an ADHD/ASD diagnosis and these will be announced shortly. If you have any cases causing concern please email Lucy or George.

We appreciate this is a busy time for everyone, third sector support lines are still in place for people, carers and families. The numbers can be found below:

Bath Mind (BaNES service)

- Evening Crisis and Mental Health Line (7 days – 5.30pm-11.30pm) **01225 316199**
- Community Advice and Support Line (part of Community Wellbeing Hub) **0300 2470050**

Swindon & Gloucestershire Mind (Swindon service)

- The Junction (7 days – 4pm–11pm) **01793 286506**

Alabaré (BSW wide)

- Riverside Sanctuary (7 days – 3pm-11pm) **01722 466680**

Samaritans - call **116 123** or email jo@smaritans.org

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) for men - call **0800 58 58 58** 5pm to midnight

Papyrus - for people under 35 - call **0800 068 41 41** 10am-10pm Monday to Friday, 2pm-10pm weekends, 2pm-5pm bank holidays, email pat@papyrus-uk.org

Childline - for children and young people under 19 - call **0800 1111**

The Silver Line - for older people - call **0800 4 70 80 90**. The AWP 24/7 helpline is also still available on **0800 953 1919**

Thank you for your understanding and support during these challenging times.