A MANIFESTO FOR BETTER MENTAL HEALTH

➤ Commit to real terms increases in funding for mental health services for both adults and children in each year of the next Parliament.

➤ Commit to ensuring that national funding decisions are assessed for impact on the existing legislative commitment to both mental and physical health.

➤ Ensure all women have access to mental health support during, and after, pregnancy by committing to include measurable objectives in the NHS Mandate following the General Election.

➤ Commit to raising awareness of mental health and well-being among young people, by ensuring mental health education forms an enhanced part of the PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum.

➤ Commit to ensuring mental health education forms a key part of training for teachers and school nurses.

➤ Commit to investing in parenting programmes across England.

➤ Ensure that the current 18.5% target for smoking reduction by 2015 applies equally to people with mental health problems.

➤ Introduce a quantified national reduction in premature mortality among people with mental health problems.

➤ Commit to a continuation of government funding for the Time to Change programme over the 2015-20 period.

➤ Commit to offer integrated health and employment support to people with mental health conditions who are out of work and seeking employment.

➤ Commit to a clear, transparent programme for introducing maximum waiting times for mental health services, and amend the NHS Constitution to embed these during the next Parliament. These actions must be guided by the best outcomes for people using mental health services and not short-term affordability.

➤ Commit to continued momentum around the Crisis Care Concordat including comprehensive liaison psychiatry services on hand around the clock in every hospital.

➤ Commit to continue funding for a national network of liaison and diversion mental health services, working with police and the courts.

The Mental Health Policy Group – General Election 2015