

Men's Mental Health Conference

Date: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Venue: 21 Prescott Street, London, E1 8BB

Time	Session
9.00am	Registration
9.30am	Welcome and introduction Dr Lade Smith, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist and President of Royal College of Psychiatrists UK
9.45am	Men's Mental Health Strategy Baroness Gillian Merron, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Women's Health and Mental Health
10.00am	Implications for practice Dr Adrian James, NHS England National Medical Director for Mental Health
	The big picture on men's mental health
10.15am	Professor Sir Louis Appleby, Professor of Psychiatry, Manchester University; Lead National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England; Director NCISH
10.35am	Understanding suicide risk Professor Rory O'Connor, School of Health & Wellbeing, Glasgow University; Co-chair Advisory Board on Suicide Prevention to Scottish Government
10.55am	Q&A
11.15am	Morning refreshment break
11.35am	The cost of the mask: silent struggles in masculinity, trauma and men's mental health Professor Divine Charura
11.55am	Primary care Baroness Clare Gerada, Former President RCGPs
12.10pm	Men and women: experience and expression of emotion Professor Robin Dunbar, Professor of Evolutionary Psychology, Oxford University

12.30pm	Lunch break
1.30pm	What stops people seeking help Professor Zaffer Iqbal, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hull University; Clinical Director of Psychological Services
1.50pm	Men's mental health and suicide Philip Pirie, Lived Experience
2.00pm	TBC
2.20pm	Close of conference