**The Apples Medical Centre** Version 1 Date 31st July 2025

**Practice Policy on Shared Care Arrangements (Patient information)**

1. **Engagement with Providers:**

**Local CMHT**: We will engage with the local CMHT for shared care arrangements where capacity allows.

**External Providers (Consultant Psychiatrist/Paediatrician registered with the GMC):**  We will facilitate referrals to providers but will not engage in shared care unless the patient meets the criteria of being diagnosed, stabilised, and monitored.

**Criteria for Shared Care:**

* Patients must be diagnosed and stabilised on medication.
* Patients must be seen annually by the diagnosing service.
* In the event of medication shortages, the responsibility for providing alternatives rests with the diagnosing service.

**Shared Care Agreements:**

* Agreements will be passed on to CMHT where applicable.

**Patient Decision-Making:**

* Patients will be informed of their options under the Right to Choose and asked to decide which provider they wish to engage with.
* Information/Shared Care Statement will be provided at the time of referral (appt with the GP) and available on our website.

**Existing Patients:**

* We will review existing patients who are not being monitored to ensure safety and compliance with our policy.
* Any deviations from the policy will be addressed to ensure patient safety.

**Communication and Documentation:**

Draft documents will be prepared for patient referrals and shared care agreements.

Regular updates and reviews will be conducted to ensure alignment with best practices and safety standards

Sign-Off:

[Practice Manager Name] P J Cannings Date: 31st July 2025

[Lead GP Name] Dr Robert Lewis  Date: 31st July 2025