

MENTAL HEALTH FOCUS PRAISED

Newark Advertiser - 11th December 2009

A CAMPAIGN to help tackle and prevent depression has been welcomed by Mr Arthur Robinson, the chief executive for Raphael Healthcare, which runs a unit in Newark for women suffering from mental health issues.

The Government campaign aims to identify those most at risk and offer better access to psychological therapies.

Mr Robinson says: "Raphael Healthcare views the Tackling Depression campaign from health ministers as a positive step forward.

"It focuses on prevention and early treatment, which will help identify areas of stress at an early stage and prevent it becoming a long-term illness.

"Often people are treated only when a mental health illness reaches a crisis point.

"The campaign will not only help people in the community but also support the women who are treated at Raphael Healthcare's Farndon Unit.

"This support will be essential, particularly after patients are discharged.

"Early identification of any stress, anxiety or depression will help maintain their stay in the community and prevent readmission to hospital.

"In addition, it reduces the stigma attached to mental illness."