

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements

MENTAL HEALTH ACT COMMITTEE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Board shall establish a committee to be known as the **Mental Health Act Committee**. The detailed terms of reference and operating arrangements in respect of this Committee are set out below. Background information in relation to the Mental Health Act, the Mental Health Measure and the Mental Capacity Act is set out in Annex 1. The Committee will also consider, when appropriate, any other legislation that impacts on mental health and mental capacity. It will regularly report to the Board and advise it of any areas of concern.

2. PURPOSE

2.1 The purpose of the Committee is to consider and monitor the use of the Mental Health Act 1983 (MHA), Mental Capacity Act 2005 (which includes the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) (MCA) and the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 (the Measure) and give assurance to the Board that:

- Hospital Managers' duties under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- the functions and processes of discharge under section 23 of the Act;
- the provisions set out in the Mental Capacity Act 2005, and
- in the Mental Health Measure (Wales) 2010

are all exercised in accordance with statute and that there is compliance with:

- the Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice for Wales
- the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Code of Practice
- the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Code of Practice
- the Human Rights Act 1998
- the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities
- the associated Regulations and local Policies

3. DELEGATED POWERS AND AUTHORITY

3.1 The Committee, in respect of its provision of advice and assurance will and is authorised by the Board to: -

- ensure that those acting on behalf of the Board in relation to the provisions of Mental Health and Capacity legislation, including the Measure, have the requisite skills and competencies to discharge the Board's responsibilities;
- identify matters of risk relating to Mental Health and Capacity legislation and seek assurance that such risks are being mitigated;
- monitor the use of the legislation and consider local trends and benchmarks;

- consider matters arising from the Hospital Managers' Power of Discharge Sub-Committee;
- ensure that **all** other relevant associated legislation is considered in relation to Mental Health and Capacity legislation;
- consider matters arising from visits undertaken by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales Review* Service for Mental Health in particular, issues relating to Mental Health Act 1983 and monitor action plans that inform responses to HIW reports;
- consider any reports made by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales regarding complaints about Mental Health and Capacity legislation;
- receive and review reports on the approval for all Wales Approved Clinicians and Section 12(2) Doctors;
- consider and approve on behalf of the Board any LHB policy which relates to the implementation of mental health and capacity legislation as well as any other information, reports etc. that the Committee deems appropriate;
- receive and review DoLS reports regarding authorisations and associated reasons;
- receive and review reports on the implementation of the Mental Health Measure and be satisfied that positive outcomes for people are being achieved;
- receive and review the results of internal audit reports relating to care and treatment plans, as well as any other relevant reports relating to the Mental Health Measure;
- receive the results of clinical audits and any other reviews relating to the use of the Mental Health Act and oversee the implementation of recommendations;
- consider any other information, reports, etc. that the Committee deems appropriate.
- investigate or have investigated any activity (clinical and non-clinical) within its terms of reference. It may seek relevant information from any:
 - employee (and all employees are directed to cooperate with any legitimate request made by the Committee); and
 - other committee, sub-committee or group set up by the Board to assist it in the delivery of its functions.
- obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of non members with relevant experience and expertise if it considers it necessary, in accordance with the Board's procurement, budgetary and other requirements;

*Note – HIW report recommendations are the remit of Quality Safety and Experience Committee (QSE) however any specific recommendations relating to Mental Health or the Mental Capacity Act will be the remit of this Committee who will respond as appropriate ensuring the Board and QSE are appraised accordingly.

Sub Committees/Panels

3.2 The Committee may, subject to the approval of the Health Board, establish Sub-Committees or task and finish groups to carry out on its behalf specific aspects of Committee business.

3.3 Sub-Committee - In accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Health Boards (Constitution, Procedure and Membership) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/149 (W.19), the Board has appointed a Sub-Committee of this Committee, to be known as the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee, terms of reference for which are attached as Annex 2.

3.4 Panel -Three members drawn from the pool of designated Associate Hospital Managers will constitute a panel to consider the possible discharge or continued detention under the MHA of unrestricted patients and those subject to Supervised Community Treatment Order(SCT).

3.5 The Board retains final responsibility for the performance of the Hospital Managers' duties delegated to particular people on the staff of Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, as well as the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Members

Four Independent Members of the Board to include one who is a Member of the Quality, Safety and Experience Committee and one who shall be the Chair of the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee.

4.2 In attendance

Director of Mental Health & Learning Disabilities
 Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery
 Medical Director for Mental Health
 Nursing Director for Mental Health
 Mental Health Director
 Mental Health Act Manager
 Service User Representative
 Carer Representative
 Social Services Representative
 North Wales Police Representative
 Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust Representative
 IMCA Advocacy provider Representative
 IMHA Advocacy provider Representative
 MCA representative
 DoLS representative
 Two Associate Hospital Managers (as nominated by the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee) appointed for a period of four years with re-appointment not to exceed a maximum of eight years in total.

4.3 Other Directors will attend as required by the Committee Chair, as well any others from within or outside the organisation who the Committee considers should attend, taking into account the matters under consideration at each meeting.

- 4.4** Trade Union Partners are welcome to attend the public session of the Committee

4.4 Member Appointments

4.4.1 The membership of the Committee shall be determined by the Board, based on the recommendation of the Health Board Chair - taking account of the balance of skills and expertise necessary to deliver the Committee's remit and subject to any specific requirements or directions made by the Welsh Government. This includes the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee who shall be Independent Members. The Vice-Chair of the Health Board will be the Chair of this Committee and shall retain the role of Chair of this Committee throughout their tenure of appointment.

4.4.2 Other appointed Independent Members shall hold office on the Committee for a period of up to 4 years. Tenure of appointments will be staggered to ensure business continuity. A member may resign or be removed from the Committee by the Board. Independent Members may be reappointed up to a maximum period of 8 years.

4.5 Secretariat

- 4.5.1 Secretary: as determined by the Board Secretary.

4.6 Support to Committee Members

- 4.6.1 The Board Secretary, on behalf of the Committee Chair, shall:

- Arrange the provision of advice and support to Committee members on any aspect related to the conduct of their role; and
- Ensure the provision of a programme of development for Committee members as part of the overall Board Development programme.

5. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

5.1 Quorum

5.1.1 At least two Independent Members must be present to ensure the quorum of the Committee, one of whom should be the Committee Chair or Vice-Chair.

5.2 Frequency of Meetings

- 5.2.1 Meetings shall routinely be held on a quarterly basis.

5.3 Withdrawal of individuals in attendance

5.3.1 The Committee may ask any or all of those who normally attend but who are not members to withdraw to facilitate open and frank discussion of

particular matters.

6. RELATIONSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITIES WITH THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES

6.1 Although the Board has delegated authority to the Committee for the exercise of certain functions as set out within these terms of reference, it retains overall responsibility and accountability for ensuring the quality and safety of healthcare for its citizens through the effective governance of the organisation.

6.2 The Committee is directly accountable to the Board for its performance in exercising the functions set out in these Terms of Reference.

6.3 The Committee, through its Chair and members, shall work closely with the Board's other Committees to provide advice and assurance to the Board through the:

- 6.3.1 joint planning and co-ordination of Board and Committee business; and
- 6.3.2 sharing of information

in doing so, contributing to the integration of good governance across the organisation, ensuring that all sources of assurance are incorporated into the Board's overall risk and assurance arrangements.

6.4 The Committee shall embed the corporate goals and priorities through the conduct of its business, , and in doing and transacting its business shall seek assurance that adequate consideration has been given to the sustainable development principle and in meeting the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

7. REPORTING AND ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

7.1 The Committee Chair shall:

7.1.1 report formally, regularly and on a timely basis to the Board on the Committee's activities, via the Chair's assurance report as well as the presentation of an annual Committee report;

7.1.2 ensure appropriate escalation arrangements are in place to alert the Health Board Chair, Chief Executive or Chairs' of other relevant committees of any urgent/critical matters that may affect the operation and/or reputation of the Health Board.

7.2 The Board Secretary, on behalf of the Board, shall oversee a process of regular and rigorous self-assessment and evaluation of the Committee's performance and operation.

8. APPLICABILITY OF STANDING ORDERS TO COMMITTEE BUSINESS

8.1 The requirements for the conduct of business as set out in the Standing Orders are equally applicable to the operation of the Committee, except in the following areas:

- Quorum

9. REVIEW

9.1 These terms of reference and operating arrangements shall be reviewed annually by the Committee and any changes recommended to the Board for approval.

V4.0 Approved:

Audit Committee 30.5.19

Chair's Report to Board 25.7.19

Annex 1

BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING THE ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION

Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended by the Mental Health Act 2007)

The Mental Health Act 1983 covers the legal framework to allow the care and treatment of mentally disordered persons to be detained if deemed to be a risk to themselves or others.

It also provides the legislation by which people suffering from a mental disorder can be detained in hospital to have their disorder assessed or treated against their wishes.

The MHA introduced the concept of “Hospital Managers” which for hospitals managed by a Local Health Board are the Board Members. The term “Hospital Managers” does not occur in any other legislation.

Hospital Managers have a central role in operating the provisions of the MHA; specifically, they have the authority to detain patients admitted and transferred under the MHA. For those patients who become subject to Supervised Community Treatment (SCT), the Hospital Managers are those of the hospital where the patient was detained immediately before going on to SCT - i.e. the responsible hospital or the hospital to which responsibility has subsequently been assigned.

Hospital Managers must ensure that patients are detained only as the MHA allows, that their treatment and care is fully compliant with the MHA and that patients are fully informed of and supported in exercising their statutory rights. Hospital Managers must also ensure that a patient’s case is dealt with in line with associated legislation.

With the exception of the power of discharge, arrangements for authorising day to day decisions made on behalf of Hospital Managers have been set out in the Health Board’s Scheme of Delegation.

Mental Health Measure

The Mental Health (Wales) Measure received Royal Assent in December 2010 and is concerned with:

- providing mental health services at an earlier stage for individuals who are experiencing mental health problems to reduce the risk of further decline in mental health;
- making provision for care and treatment plans for those in secondary mental health care and ensure those previously discharged from secondary mental health services have access to those services when they believe their mental health may be deteriorating;
- extending mental health advocacy provision.

Mental Capacity Act

The MCA came into force mainly in October 2007. It was amended by the Mental Health Act 2007 to include the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). DoLS came into force in April 2009.

The MCA covers three main issues:

- The process to be followed where there is doubt about a person's decision-making abilities and decisions therefore where 'Best Interest' may need to be made on their behalf (e.g. about treatment and care)
- How people can make plans and/or appoint other people to make decisions for them at a time in the future when they can't take their own decisions
- The legal framework for caring for adult, mentally disordered, incapacitated people in situations where they are deprived of their liberty in hospitals or care homes (DoLS) and/or where Court of Protection judgements are required.

Thus the scope of MCA extends beyond those patients who have a mental disorder.

Annex 2

POWER OF DISCHARGE SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Board shall establish a sub-committee to be known as the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee. The detailed terms of reference and operating arrangements in respect of this Sub-Committee are set out below.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee (hereafter, the Sub-Committee) is to advise and assure the Board that the processes associated with the discharge of patients from compulsory powers that are used by the Sub-Committee are being performed correctly and in accordance with legal requirements.

3. DELEGATED POWERS AND AUTHORITY

- 3.1 The Sub-Committee, in respect of its provision of advice and assurance will and is authorised by the Board to:-
- Comment specifically upon the processes employed by the Sub-Committee's Panel in relation to the discharge of patients from compulsory powers, and whether these processes are fair, reasonable and compliant with the Mental Health Act and are in line with other related legislation, including, the Mental Capacity Act 2005, the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Data protection Act 1998 and that the appropriate systems are in place to ensure the effective scrutiny of associated discharge documentation.
 - undertake the functions of Section 23 of the Mental Health Act 1983, in relation to hearing cases of detained powers ensuring that three or more members of the Sub-Committee form a Panel and only a minimum of three members in agreement may exercise the power of discharge. The Panel will be drawn from the pool of members formally designated as Hospital Manager as reported to the Sub-Committee.
 - investigate or have investigated any activity (clinical and non-clinical) within its terms of reference. It may seek relevant information from any:
 - employee (and all employees are directed to cooperate with any legitimate request made by the Committee); and

- other committee, sub-committee or group set up by the Board to assist it in the delivery of its functions.
 - obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of outsiders with relevant experience and expertise if it considers it necessary, in accordance with the Board's procurement, budgetary and other requirements;
- 3.2 The Sub-Committee will, as part of its process of hearing cases, be made aware of operational issues affecting the patient's care and treatment, including discharge arrangements. These are not matters for which the Sub-Committee shall have responsibility. Even so, Sub-Committee members are not precluded from raising such matters with those holding operational responsibility. In addition, such issues can be raised on an anonymised basis or through the Board itself.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Members

Three Independent Members of the Board.

A maximum of ten (10) appointed MHA Managers (as nominated and agreed by the Sub-Committee) (Appointed for a period of four years with appointment not to exceed a maximum of eight years in total).

4.2 Attendees

Director of Mental Health
 Senior Mental Health Clinicians
 Mental Health Act Manager
 Officer Representatives for Learning Disabilities and Children's Services

Other Directors will attend as required by the Committee Chair, as well any others from within or outside the organisation who the Committee considers should attend, taking into account the matters under consideration at each meeting.

Trade Union Partners are welcome to attend the public session of the sub-committee

4.3 Member Appointments

- 4.3.1 The membership of the Committee shall be determined by the Board, based on the recommendation of the Health Board Chair - taking account of the balance of skills and expertise necessary to deliver the Committee's remit and subject to any specific requirements or directions made by the Welsh Government. This includes the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee who shall be Independent Members. The Vice-Chair of the Board shall be the Chair of this Sub-Committee.

4.3.2 Appointed Independent Members shall hold office on the Committee for a period of up to 4 years. Tenure of appointments will be staggered to ensure business continuity. A member may resign or be removed from the Committee by the Board. Independent Members may be reappointed up to a maximum period of 8 years.

4.4 Secretariat

4.4.1 Secretary: as determined by the Board Secretary.

4.5 Support to Committee Members

4.5.1 The Board Secretary, on behalf of the Committee Chair, shall:

- Arrange the provision of advice and support to Committee members on any aspect related to the conduct of their role; and
- Ensure the provision of a programme of development for Committee members as part of the overall Board Development programme.

5. SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

5.1 Quorum

At least two Independent Members and four Associate Hospital Managers must be present to ensure the quorum of the Sub-Committee one of whom should be the Chair or Vice-Chair.

5.2 Frequency of Meetings

Meetings shall routinely be held on a quarterly basis.

5.3 Withdrawal of individuals in attendance

The Sub-Committee may ask any or all of those who normally attend but who are not members to withdraw to facilitate open and frank discussion of particular matters.

6. RELATIONSHIP & ACCOUNTABILITIES WITH THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES/GROUPS

6.1 Although the Board has delegated authority to the Sub-Committee for the exercise of certain functions as set out within these terms of reference, it retains overall responsibility and accountability for ensuring the quality and safety of healthcare for its citizens through the effective governance of the organisation.

6.2 The Sub-Committee is directly accountable to the Board (via the Mental Health Act Committee) for its performance in exercising the functions set out in these Terms of Reference.

6.3 The Sub-Committee, through its Chair and members, shall work closely with the Board's other Committees to provide advice and assurance to the Board through the:

- 6.3.1 joint planning and co-ordination of Board and Committee business; and
- 6.3.2 sharing of information

in doing so, contributing to the integration of good governance across the organisation, ensuring that all sources of assurance are incorporated into the Board's overall risk and assurance arrangements.

6.4 In terms of the Board's assurance on the Mental Health Act requirements, the remit of the Sub-Committee is limited to the exercise of powers under Section 23 of the Mental Health Act 1983, rather than the wider operation, which would be the remit of the Mental Health Act Committee.

6.5 The Sub-Committee shall embed the corporate goals and priorities through the conduct of its business, , and in doing and transacting its business shall seek assurance that adequate consideration has been given to the sustainable development principle and in meeting the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

7. REPORTING AND ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

7.1 The Committee Chair shall:

7.1.1 report formally, regularly and on a timely basis to the Board on the Sub-Committee's activities, via the Chair's assurance report;

7.1.2 ensure appropriate escalation arrangements are in place to alert the Health Board Chair, Chief Executive or Chairs' of other relevant committees of any urgent/critical matters that may affect the operation and/or reputation of the Health Board.

7.2 The Board Secretary, on behalf of the Board, shall oversee a process of regular and rigorous self-assessment and evaluation of the Sub-Committee's performance and operation as part of the overall review of the Mental Health Act Committee.

8. APPLICABILITY OF STANDING ORDERS TO COMMITTEE BUSINESS

8.1 The requirements for the conduct of business as set out in the Health Board's Standing Orders are equally applicable to the operation of the Sub-Committee, except in the following areas:

- Quorum
- owing to the nature of the business of the Sub-Committee, meetings will not be held in public.

9. REVIEW

9.1 These terms of reference and operating arrangements shall be reviewed annually by the Sub-Committee and any changes recommended to the Board, with reference to the Mental Health Act Committee for approval.

V4.0