

**Minutes of the Mental Health Act Monitoring Committee  
held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 1:00pm  
on Microsoft Teams**

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**Present:**

- Katija Dew - Chair (deputising for Emrys Elias)  
Paul Deneen - Independent Member

**In Attendance:**

- Bryony Codd - Head of Corporate Governance  
(deputising for the Board Secretary)  
Ian Thomas - General Manager, Mental Health and  
Learning Disabilities  
Nick Wood - Executive Director of Primary, Community  
and Mental Health Services  
Sarah Cadman - Head of Quality and Improvement for  
Mental Health and Learning Disabilities  
Dr Kavitha Pasunuru - Clinical Director, Child and Adolescent  
Mental Health  
Michelle Forkings - Divisional Nurse for Mental Health and  
Learning Disabilities/Associate Director of  
Nursing  
Ian Thomas - General Manager, Mental Health Learning  
Disabilities

**Apologies:**

- Emrys Elias - Chair  
Dr Chris O'Connor - Divisional Director for Mental Health and  
Learning Disabilities  
Richard Howells - Board Secretary

**MHAMC 1006/01 Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**MHAMC 1006/02 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were noted.

**MHAMC 1006/03****Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest in relation to items on the Agenda.

**MHAMC 1006/04****Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

The Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 2nd March 2021. Amendments were to remove Action 0203/09 and remove duplicate attendance of Ian Thomas. **Action: Secretariat.**

**MHAMC 1006/05****Committee Terms of Reference Discussion**

The Committee was assured that a meeting had taken place between Emrys Elias, Nick Wood and Chris O'Connor to discuss the Terms of Reference. The Committee was content with the outcome.

**MHAMC 1006/06****Mental Health Act Update**

Sarah Cadman provided the Committee with an update on the Mental Health Act and associated hospital manager's activity within the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Division.

It was noted that Torfaen and Newport boroughs show high numbers of detentions, and that the data was being monitored quarterly to identify any trends. Further data indicated that, throughout 2020, general incidence of hospital admissions had been lower than previous years.

It was also noted that the Health Board had increased the Crisis Emergency Liaison Team to 24/7 rapid access facility.

An increase of 10-15% in demand for children and young adult's services was reported. It was noted that provision for CRISIS for children and young adults was a national issue. Discussions were taking place with local authorities to monitor and address the rapidly changing situation.

The Committee was advised of the need for further discussions to take place with the Regional Partnership Board around provision of services.

Lessons learned and supporting access to mental health services were items of discussion in the upcoming report prepared for Board.

## **MHAMC 1006/07**

### **Update on Section 117 Aftercare and progress of the Section 117 policy review**

Sarah Cadman updated the Committee on the update of Section 117 Aftercare and policy review. Section 117 Aftercare is the right of an individual, detained under the Mental Health Act, to ongoing aftercare for their mental health needs. It was noted that the main issue is about the management of aftercare packages. The Committee was advised that this had been raised with the Mental Health Act Implementation Group. At the time of the meeting, decisions for individuals' aftercare were made by clinical teams and Local Authorities; these may differ by borough, based on policies. If an individual's care plan was delayed due to slow decision making, this is then escalated through the divisional teams. The Committee was advised that, until there was an 'all Wales' view on this, things were unable to move forward.

The Committee queried the protocols in place to address any issues and whether these clearly state who makes decisions around individual care needs. The Committee was assured that there was a 'Multi Agency Section 117 Policy' that guides practice; this was held by the Mental Health Act Implementation Group and that this policy had been raised for review. Ian Thomas advised the Committee that work had previously been done, alongside the Regional Partnership Board. A *Transformation Team* had been commissioned to work with Local Authorities, but funding had been lost during the pandemic. The Committee agreed that a 'once for Wales' approach was needed and things should be linked on a regional level.

The Committee noted the update.

## **MHAMC 1006/08**

### **Final Matters/For information Mental Health Act Benchmarking Information**

The committee agreed that further discussions were needed, based on the information shared. Item to be added for discussion at the next committee meeting.

**Action: Secretariat**

The Chair requested that the Action Log be attached to the committee Terms of Reference going forward.

**Action: Board Secretary/secretariat**

**MHAMC 1006/09      Items for Board Consideration**

None noted.

**MHAMC 1006/10      Date and Time of Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Mental Health Act Monitoring Committee will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 9.00am via Microsoft Teams.