

ANEURIN BEVAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of the Mental Health Act Monitoring Committee (MHAMC) held on Monday 13th June at 10:00 am via Teams

Present:

Pippa Britton	- Chair
Paul Deneen	- Independent Member
Katija Dew	- Independent Member

In attendance:

Chris O'Connor	- Interim Executive Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health
Bryony Codd	- Head of Corporate Governance (deputising for the Board Secretary)
Ian Thomas	- General Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities
Kathryn Walters	- Interim Divisional Director, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities
Kavitha Pasunuru	- Assistant Divisional Director, Families and Therapies

Apologies:

Sarah Cadman	- Head of Quality and Improvement for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities
Michelle Forkings	- Divisional Nurse for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities/Associate Director of Nursing
Rani Mallison	- Director of Corporate Governance

1	Preliminary Matters
----------	----------------------------

MHAMC 1306/01	Welcome and Introductions The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
MHAMC 1306/02	Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were noted.
MHAMC 1306/03	Declarations of Interest There were no Declarations of Interest raised in relation to items on the agenda
MHAMC 1306/04	Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st March 2021 The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 st of March 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record, subject to confirmation of job titles. Secretariat to amend job titles for accuracy. Action: Secretariat
MHAMC 1306/05	Action Log MHAMC 0912/06 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Templates and supporting guidance- Bryony Codd, Head of Corporate Governance, informed the Committee that work was being undertaken to review report templates and supporting guidance. MHAMC 0103/06.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Act Compliance Report, update on recruitment of hospital managers. Katija Dew, Independent Member, explained that the Health Board encouraged applications from individuals with a range of backgrounds and varied experience. The Chair queried if the Health Board had a budget to offer interview expenses. The Committee were informed that further information on this would come back to the next meeting. Paul Deneen, Independent Member, questioned if the term 'Hospital Managers' was fit for purpose. It was noted that the term 'hospital managers' was a requirement of the Mental Health Act, however, adverts focussed on the requirements/attributes of the role rather than the title.
2	Agenda Items
MHAMC 1306/06	Mental Health Act Compliance Report

Ian Thomas, General Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, provided an update on the use of the Mental Health Act during Quarter 4 2022, to provide assurance to the Committee on the compliance with the legislative requirements of the Mental Health Act.

The following main points were noted:

- The highest number of detentions were under section 2 and Section 3.
- Newport and Caerphilly had seen the highest number of detentions, based on population size, there was nothing of significance to note.
- In comparison to the previous quarter, there had been a 40% overall decrease in detentions and use of the act. Taking into consideration seasonal variation, this data mirrored the data of Quarter 4 2020/2021.
- There had been a 4% increase in the use of detentions over the past two years, with an increase of acuity within the Health Board. Early informal review indicated this may reflect the pandemic, with further increases predicted.
- Over the last two quarters, there had been no patients under 18 detained under the Mental Health Act, for the first time in three years.

The use of the MHA throughout COVID had been monitored. Members discussed the need to continue to monitor this data post-COVID. The chair queried if the 4% rise in the use of detentions reflected predicted numbers post-pandemic. Chris O'Connor, Interim Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health Services, informed the Committee that a broad piece of work had been undertaken locally and nationally, looking at the demand for mental health care post-pandemic. The work showed a decrease in the well-being across the population of Wales and the predicted numbers were significant. It was noted that this data and research had not been linked with the use of the Mental Health Act at present.

Paul Deneen, Independent Member, queried if there had been an increase in the number of people accessing mental health services. Chris O'Connor explained that during the pandemic the Health Board had introduced the new role of Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner into General Practices. It was noted the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioners provided approximately 1,500 appointments per month, significantly decreasing the impact on other primary care mental health services and improving access for patients with mental health care needs. The Committee was informed that current funding for Psychological Wellbeing Practitioners was through the service innovation Neighbourhood Care Networks (NCN) budget, and long-term funding had not yet been secured by the Health Board.

	<p>Katija Dew, Independent Member, discussed the links between the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner and the third sector. Chris O'Connor confirmed that there were strong links with the third sector and that an element of the role was to support individuals to access third sector support.</p> <p>Katija Dew formally expressed concern over the potential long-term funding for the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner role. Chris O'Connor welcomed support from the Board around securing funding and prioritising the initiative. It was discussed that further evaluation around this was required, noting the positive impact on patient care and Primary Care outcomes.</p> <p>The Chair requested an overview of early intervention and the Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner role, and the impact on the use of the Mental Health Act, to evaluate if there were improved experiences for patient care. Action: Interim Executive Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health</p> <p>Kavitha Pasunuru, Assistant Divisional Director Family and Therapies, explained that there had been a 26% increase in front door presentations for children and young people in mental health services. The Chair queried if the NEST Framework was having an impact on services for children and young people. The Committee were informed that there was a focus on early intervention, and working alongside local authority partners and the community, around understanding the needs of children and young people, however, although there were observed benefits, there was not any data to indicate the impact at present. Further work was being undertaken by the Children and Families Board on embedding Nurturing Empowered Safe and Trusted (NEST) in action. Committee members supported the approach of early intervention to support children and their families.</p> <p>Ian Thomas discussed the nine rectifiable errors during the quarter and highlighted that there had been a focus on training for clinicians. The Chair requested a verbal update at the next Committee meeting on the progress of the training. Action: General Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities/Head of Quality Improvement MHL D</p> <p>The Committee noted the update and thanked the team for all the hard work.</p>
MHAMC 1306/07	<p>Power of Discharge Committee</p> <p>Kathryn Waters, Interim Divisional Director, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, provided an overview of the Power of Discharge</p>

	<p>Sub-Committee meeting held on 2nd March 2022. The minutes were noted.</p> <p>Members were noted that the location and methodology for hearings would be patient/user led. The Committee expressed concern that contested reviews would have face-to-face meetings, as standard.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the recommendation that an additional 10 Associate Hospital Managers were recruited, aligning with numbers across Wales. The Committee supported additional recruitment and training, noting the work undertaken by the Health Board towards completing the backlog of managers hearings.</p>
<p>MHAMC 1306/08</p>	<p>Update on Pilot Projects with Potential Impact on the MHA</p> <p>Chris O'Connor, Interim Executive Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health, provided the Committee with an overview of the pilot projects and work to support people in the Gwent area who are experiencing a mental health crisis. Members were reminded of the Health Board's work alongside local authority colleagues to provide better support for people in crisis, with a 'whole person, whole system' approach. Earlier engagement and support for patients aims to help alleviate distress and help the person to engage in the help offered, thus reducing the potential for use of the Act. Members were informed that all pilots would be evaluated through the Health Board's IMTP, with regular updates to the Committee through the MHA Compliance Report.</p> <p>The Committee were informed of a national 'Single Point of Contact' for mental health services and the Health Board's plans to have a Gwent Single Point of Contact, accessible through the 111 service. Further work was required prior to the launch; Hwyl Dda University Health Board would be trialling the service and sharing any learning with other Health Boards. The Committee requested information on the directory that the 111 operators would be accessing to get information on mental health services for the population. Information on the directory used to be shared with members outside of the meeting.</p> <p>Action: Interim Executive Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health</p> <p>The Chair and Committee members requested further discussion at a Board development session evaluating the 111 service and how the new Gwent Single Point of Contact service would fit in, with a focus on communication to members of the public. Action: Interim Executive Director of Primary Care, Community and Mental Health</p>

	The Committee received the report for assurance.
MHAMC 1306/09	<p>Section 117- Update and progress on the Monmouthshire County Council Pilot</p> <p>Ian Thomas, General Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, informed the Committee that pre-Covid there were discussions with local authority (LA) colleagues around a pilot with Monmouthshire County Council. However, due to non-recurring funding and the pandemic this did not take place. It was discussed that an important piece of work was required around developing Section 117 aftercare and packages and funding. The Committee was content that the Monmouthshire County Council Pilot action would be closed.</p> <p>The Chair requested any further updates on Section 117 and its links to the MHA to come back to the Committee. Ian Thomas to clarify with Sarah Cadman outside of the meeting. Action: General Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities/Head of Quality Improvement MHL D</p>
3	Final Matters
MHAMC 1306/10	<p>Confirmation of risks/issues to be reported to other Committees and any predicted changes in relation to the MHA</p> <p>Relating to the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for all Mental Health Services including crisis Service, Committee members requested further discussion at a Board development session evaluating the 111 service and how the new Gwent Single Point of Contact service would fit in, with a focus on communication to members of the public.</p> <p>No issues discussed were required to be reported to other Committees. There was nothing discussed to refer to the risk register.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the teams for the informative reports and the great work being undertaken.</p>
4	Date of Next Meeting
	The date of the next meeting was Tuesday 6 th September 2022 via Microsoft Teams.