

19 August 2014

*Room 114, Elizabeth II Court
Hampshire County Council
The Castle, Winchester
Hampshire, SO23 8UJ*

Councillor Liz Fairhurst
Chairman of the Hampshire Health and
Wellbeing Board
(By email)

Tel: 01962 847336
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Dear Liz,

Hampshire HASC: Adult Mental Health Services working group

Please find attached the final report of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee's (HASC's) 'Adult Mental Health Working Group' on 'The Use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 in Hampshire'.

I wished to write to thank you for contributing to the evidence considered as part of this review. The Working Group heard from a broad range of stakeholders as part of its scrutiny of this issue, and the information provided by the Health and Wellbeing Board helped to inform the conclusions of the report.

The Working Group has now assessed the evidence received, and present their findings in the enclosed report. This includes a variety of recommendations aimed at improving processes relating to the use of Section 136 in the County. The enclosed report was considered by the HASC on the 29 July 2014 and the recommendations were agreed.

May I draw your attention to the following recommendations in the report which are directed, either fully or in part, to the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- A. That as a matter of urgency, a preferred proposal for a health-based place of safety for children and adolescents is identified and implemented in Hampshire.

- H. That commissioners assist in identifying health funding for the continuation of Operation Serenity urgently, given its primary role in the reduction in Section 136 detentions, and contribution to early intervention and prevention in mental health crises.

As the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, your response to these recommendations would be appreciated.

Responses to the recommendations will be considered by the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee, and the Committee will monitor progress made against the actions identified over the coming year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Stallard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Cllr Patricia Stallard
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee

cc Gill Duncan, Director of Adult Services

Enc: Report of the Adult Mental Health working group on 'The Use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 in Hampshire'