

# Children & Maternity Commissioning

## Section 136 (Alternative Place of Safety) under 18s Model

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Mental Health Act provides the power for a police officer to remove a person to a place of safety, from a place to which the public have access, who appears to be suffering from mental disorder and to be in immediate need of care or control, where it is believed necessary to do so in the interests of that person or for the protection of others.
- 1.2 Central Government released a Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat on 18 February 2014 which provides a commitment from relevant organisations in relation to the care that should be in place for people in Crisis.
- 1.3 The five Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Groups have been reviewing current practice in relation to Section 136 for under 18s and the provision of an appropriate place of safety.
- 1.4 In the last 12 months twenty under 18 year olds have been detained under a s136 order from the following locations:

Southampton City 2; Fareham & Gosport 7; South East 1; Portsmouth 4; North 1; West 5

### 2. Purpose of the report

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Health & Wellbeing Board with regard to the commissioning solution that has been approved by the Pan-Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (Hampshire Five, Southampton and Portsmouth).

### 3. Service Proposal

- 3.1 Southern Health have reviewed their current Section 136 suites and are proposing the use of three places of safety for children (Parklands, Elmleigh and Antelope House) these sites will be single occupancy so if in use by a child an adult would not be sent there. Southern Health considers that these suites can be adapted to meet relevant standards for young people. This will be further explored by the task and finish group during the mobilisation phase.
- 3.2 They are developing a partnership arrangement with Med-Sec Ambulance service. Med-Sec is a private ambulance service that is currently based out of Fareham.

- 3.3 Med-Sec is a regulated Patient Transport Service who already provides a service for patients with mental health diagnosis. The staff are qualified HPC registered paramedics and IHCD technicians.
- 3.4 The latest CQC report from Med-Sec (January 2014) they met all five standards
- Respecting and involving people who use services
  - Care and welfare of people who use services
  - Safeguarding people who use services from abuse
  - Requirements relating to workers
  - Assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision
- 3.5 All staff have an advanced CRB check and are trained to the following minimum standards:
- Physical interventions, de-escalation and restraint
  - Communication skills verbal and non-verbal
  - Active communication
  - Conflict management
  - Secure and safe transportation
  - Emergency driving skills
  - Emergency first aid
- 3.6 Med-Sec staff will be trained to escort the child to the place of safety and oversee them whilst the mental health assessment process is undertaken. Clinical supervision and oversight will be maintained from appropriately qualified clinicians from Southern Health.
- 3.7 Southern Health has undertaken an initial review of current occupancy rates. Based on this review and the low numbers of young people requiring a Section 136 suite it is extremely unlikely that there will be an impact on the ability to provide a Section 136 suite for adults, as a result of this arrangement. This will be further explored by the task and finish group.

#### **4. Assurances**

- 4.1 A Task and Finish Group has been established to oversee the development of the proposal with Specialist Commissioning, Adults, Police, CAMHs and Children Services plus other relevant partners to ensure pathways and protocols are effectively established and understood and patient safety is optimized.
- 4.2 All estates will be fully compliant with crisis concordat guidelines; if throughout the mobilisation phase any estates issues arise then alternative accommodation will be sought.
- 4.3 The mobilisation phase has commenced and the new service will be operational from 1 April 2015.