
 Avon and Somerset Constabulary
 



NAPICU 16th Annual Conference 2011

Use of Section 136 and Mental Health Admissions

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Section 136 definition


If a Constable finds in a place to which the public have access a person who appears to him to be suffering from a mental disorder and to be in immediate need of care and control, the Constable may, if he thinks it necessary in the interests of that person or for the protection of other persons, remove that person to a place of safety with the meaning of section 135


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History


- MHA 1959
- MHA 1983
- 1997 RCP Council Report CR61
- 1999 NSF Mental Health
- 2000 (Amended) Race Relations Act
- 2004 Home office survey – 27 Police forces (20 routinely using custody)
- 2004 Joint Committee on Human Rights – Third Report – Inquiry into deaths in Custody
- 2005 MPA/NHS/LDC/ADSS – Policing and Mental Health
- 2005 MHAC 'In Place of Fear' eleventh biannual report 2003/05


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History

- MPA/CSIP/LDC 2006 – Review of Section 136 Mental Health Act
- 2006 Police Federation letter to Dr John Reid – ‘ Remove Custody from definition/12hrs’
- 2006 Mental Health Alliance – S136 House of Lords stage briefing – 72 to 24hrs
- MCA 2005
- MHA 2007
- 2008 RCP Council Report CR149
- 2008 IPCC – Police Custody as a ‘Place of Safety’ – Examining the use of section 136
- 2010 ACPO/DH/NPIA Guidance on Responding to Mental Health and Learning Disabilities
- **2011 RCP Council Report CR159**


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Standards / Guidance / Recommendations

Generally:

- Better environments
- Better systems, processes, monitoring
- Better partnership working
- Reduced delays in assessments
- Appropriate transport
- Appropriate resourcing


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Standards / Guidance / Recommendations

Specifically:
RCP Council Report 2011 CR159

- Sufficient PoS to meet foreseeable local need
- EDs on for urgent physical assessment
- Age appropriate? Young old?
- No expectation for Police to stay – even when person disturbed
- 24 staffing – Clearly identified person in charge
- Local implementation group – S12 and AMHPs
- Joint Assessment - 3 hours now moving to 2 hours
- Multi professional training – include users and carers


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Standards / Guidance / Recommendations

Specifically:
RCP Council Report 2011 CR159 – continued:

- Ambulance conveyance
- Police to accompany
- Ambulance services to prioritise, even if not clinical emergency
- Within 30 minutes
- Policies for cross boundary conveyance

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Avon-wide Place of Safety development

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Avon-wide Place of Safety development

- Discreet PoS Suite
- Attached to PICU
- Initially not fully operational
- Little multi agency data
- Improvements required to process / protocol / partnerships
- Resources? Staff capacity - AMHPs and Sec 12 Drs
- Transport
- Raising the profile
- GEOGRAPHY – POPULATION – BLOCK CONTRACT

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The Partners

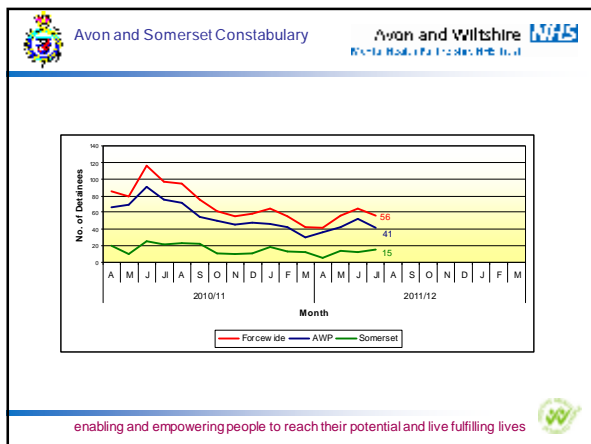
- Consultant Psychiatrist
- AMHPs
- Emergency A & E Consultant
- Reliance Custodial Services
- Health Commissioners
- Bristol Crisis and Home Treatment Team
- Avon and Somerset Police

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- Emergency Duty Team
- Police Healthcare Custody Provider
- NACRO
- Modern Matron, Hazel Unit, Callington Road
- Modern Matron, Acute Inpatient wards, Callington Road
- Avon and Somerset Criminal Justice Board
- NHS Bristol
- Offender Health South West

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Place of Safety Stats – August 2010 –July 2011


- Total assessments 301
- Male 166
- Female 135
- Non white ethnicity 248
- Total 'out of hours' assessments 207
- Number with previous s136 36
- Assessments completed within 3 hours 35
- Between 3 and 6 hours 92
- More than 12 hours 51
- Formal admission to hospital
- Informal admission to hospital

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- ### Pressures
- Financial climate
 - Capacity
 - Resources
 - Stakeholder responsibilities
 - Sustainability?
- ### Challenges
- Corporate Manslaughter Act
 - Health and Safety Act
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- ### Moving forward
- Locally:
- Reviewing resources
 - Meeting with MPs and new commission leads
 - EDM – House of Commons
 - Sharing CR159 internally and with DoCs
- Nationally:
- Further raise the profile
 - Raise Cross boundary working?
 - FTs? Contracts? Commissioning arrangements? CQC?
 - National Network?
 - NAPICU?
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Police and Fire Authority

Thank you

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