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## How Do I Contact the Mental Health Law Administrators?

The Mental Health Law Team covers all hospitals within Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Contact details are as follows:

Mental Health Law Team Redesmere Countess of Chester Health Park Liverpool Road Chester CH2 1BQ E-mail: cwp.mhlteam@nhs.net

## Who are the Mental Health Law Team?

MHL Manager Jan Devine: **01244 393167** 

#### MHL Administrators

Katrina Millen: 01244 393161 Lynsey Evans: 01244 393166 Teresa Reid: 01244 393164

MHL Administration Assistant Shelly Tate: **01244 393165** 

MHL Admin Support Louise Nicholls/Syreeta Evans: 01244 393162

The information in the leaflet was valid at the date of production Jan 2021 and is due for review in Jan 2023.

Leaflet code: G-RHMI-21-573





# Role of the Hospital Managers

Supporting people affected by Mental Health

Helping people to be the best they can be

#### Introduction

The Associate Hospital Managers are a group of independent volunteers who are appointed and trained by the Trust. Together with the Non-executive Directors of the Trust they are often referred to as the 'Hospital Managers'.

The 'Hospital Managers' are independent of the Trust management and of the clinical teams assessing and treating detained patients. Their role is delegated from the Trust Board.

#### What is the role of the Hospital Manager?

The role of the Hospital Manager is to ensure that Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust follows legal guidance.

The Hospital Managers' Panel carries out the following duties:

- Review of a patient's detention following an appeal against their Section
- Review of a patient's detention at certain times – for example when a Section is renewed.

#### How do I appeal to the Hospital Managers?

You can write to the Hospital Managers or complete a form which is available on the ward. Your appeal is dealt with by the Mental Health Act Administrators who will arrange a hearing. This hearing, known as a 'Managers' Hearing', has a panel of three who will review your detention under the Mental Health Act.

#### What happens at the hearing?

The Mental Health Act Administrators request reports from your clinical team. These reports will be shared with you and the Hospital Managers before the hearing. A hearing is then held to which both you and your clinical team will be invited.

To help you through the process of a Managers' Hearing you may –

- a) be legally represented
- b) have an Independent Mental Health Advocate or
- c) have a friend/relative to support you.

During the hearing the clinical team will be asked to discuss your care and treatment plan. You will then be given the opportunity to have your say. This is your opportunity to express your views on your detention under the Mental Health Act. If you do not feel comfortable speaking in front of the Hospital Managers, your representative may speak on your behalf.

Once everybody has had their say the Hospital Managers will discuss your case and make a decision. If they feel that you require further assessment and treatment in hospital, they will recommend that you remain on the section. However, if they feel that you no longer require a stay in hospital the Hospital Managers have the power to discharge your section.

The Hospital Managers will let you know what they have decided at the end of the hearing. The Mental Health Act Administrator will then send you a copy of the written decision a few days later.

If you need help and advice about this process please talk to your primary nurse on the ward.

#### **How Do I Get Information About My Rights?**

If you are detained in hospital under a Section of the Mental Health Act, a nurse on the ward will explain your rights to you. You will also be given a leaflet which explains how you can appeal. If you are too ill to remember the nurse will explain as often as you need.

## Hearing arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic

As face-to-face hearings are not possible due to the pandemic, hearings are currently being held by videoconference. If you want to take part in the hearing, your named nurse will support you with this process.

#### **Complaints and Compliments**

If you are pleased with our service, or unhappy, please talk to our staff as we welcome your feedback. To do this you need to contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

PALS is a confidential service that listens to your views and concerns. PALS is an information point for service users, carers and families. As a service it aims to resolve any problems quickly; and is a gateway to the complaints procedure and specialist independent advocacy services.

You can contact our PALS, Complaints and Incidents Team in two ways; Free phone number - 0800 195 4462 <a href="mailto:cwp.pals@nhs.net">cwp.pals@nhs.net</a> <a href="mailto:cwp.complaints@nhs.net">cwp.Complaints@nhs.net</a>

People who access our services are welcome to talk to the Team Manager if they are experiencing any problems with their care.