

Escalation and Assurance Report

Report from: Mental Health Legislation Committee (“MHLC”)

Date the meeting: 24.03.22

Key discussion points and matters to be escalated from the discussion at the meeting:

Alert:

- On the understanding that there is an obligation on MHLC to report to board any incident of “**prone restraint**”, MHLC duly reports that there was one (albeit limited) prone restraint during the most recent period. However, the specific context regarding the incident was explained the MHLC and MHLC was satisfied with that explanation/evidence. Moreover, that isolated incident occurred against a wider context where the level of “more restrictive” interventions, across the Trust, was in fact much reduced.

Advise:

- Good news – impressive example of **innovation & continuous improvement** – MHLC received a paper and presentation (from David Gibson) about a new digital **app/dashboard**, developed internally and from scratch, informed by the Care Trust Way, which MHLC was told has significantly improved the Trust’s ability to manage ligature risk.
- Additional assurance sought by MHLC (with an update to be provided, on 6 specific points, at the next meeting) in relation to the extent/adequacy of the arrangements and support in place for **Associate Hospital Managers**, given their importance and some particular risks/issues discussed in the meeting.
- Views sought from MHLC members/stakeholders re potential options for future MHLC meetings. General view that remote meetings worked well and **remote access** should remain an option longer term. MHLC supports Trust investment in improved technology/process, to better enable effective hybrid meetings.
- **Patrick Scott’s** very substantial positive contribution, over the last three years or so, to MHLC and more broadly, warmly and fully acknowledged by MHLC.

Assure

- Strong **Care Programme Approach audit** results.
- **Section 117 aftercare audit** raised some concerns. MHLC agreed that more focus is required re those on prolonged stays. Follow-up action agreed.
- Update received on the **Mental Capacity Act audit** process: on track for full MCA audit in June, with a report in July.
- Update received on the process for gathering feedback re the consultation on **Liberty Protection Safeguards**.
- **Terms of reference** approved for Ligature Environment Risk & Safety Group.

- No **CQC** Mental Health Act monitoring review visits in the most recent period.
- **Dashboard** data considered.
- Paper update received re (1) **Positive & Proactive Group** and (2) **Use of Force Bill**.

Risks discussed:

- Board assurance framework and strategic organisational risk register noted/discussed.

Report completed by: Simon Lewis, NED, Chair of MHLC
Date: 24.03.22