## Introduction and Aim

This document supports the Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation Policy, Mental Health Act, 1983.

To ensure individuals are aware of their delegated functions under the Mental Health Act.

To provide clear direction and guidance to staff in relation to the arrangements for authorising people to exercise delegated functions on behalf of the Hospital Managers.

To ensure that statutory requirements under the Mental Health Act 1983 are met.

## Objectives

The principle objectives of this Procedure are to inform the organisation of the arrangements for authorising people to exercise delegated functions as set out in the scheme of delegation. Unless the Act or regulations say otherwise, organisations may delegate their functions under the Act to any one and in any way their constitutions allow or in the case of the Health Board, in line with NHS legislation.

This Procedure describes the following with regard to the Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation:

- The purpose of a Scheme of Delegation
- Who is authorised to exercise delegated functions on behalf of the Hospital Managers
- Responsibilities and requirements of individuals in relation to the delegated duties of Hospital Managers

## Scope

This procedure is applicable to all people authorised to exercise delegated functions to be carried out day to day required by the Mental Health Act, 1983 (MHA) on behalf of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board within all Mental Health inpatient settings, community settings and general hospital settings where patients are detained under the MHA.

## Equality and Health Impact Assessment

There is potential for both positive and negative impact. The procedure is aimed at improving services and meeting diverse needs. Mitigation actions are already in place to offset any potential negative outcome, e.g. through the monitoring of the procedure. There is nothing, at this time, to stop the procedure from being implemented.

## Documents to read alongside this Procedure

- The Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended by the Mental Health Act 2007)
- Mental Health (hospital, guardianship, community treatment and consent to treatment) (Wales) regulations 2008
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (including the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards delegated to this Act under the Mental Health Act 2007)
- The respective Codes of Practice of the above Acts of Parliament
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act, 2004

All Cardiff and Vale policies on the Mental Health Act 1983 as appropriate including:

Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation Policy
Section 5(4) Nurses’ Holding Power Policy
Section 5(4) Nurses’ Holding Power Procedure
Section 5(2) Doctors’ Holding Power Policy
Section 5(2) Doctors’ Holding Power Procedure
Community Treatment Order Policy
Community Treatment Order Procedure

Approved by
Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee

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If the review date of this document has passed please ensure that the version you are using is the most up to date either by contacting the document author or the Governance Directorate.

### Summary of reviews/amendments

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<td>Second Opinion Approved Doctor – An independent doctor appointed by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales who gives a second opinion on whether certain types of medical treatment for mental disorder should be given without the patient’s consent</td>
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<td>MHRTIW</td>
<td>Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales – A judicial body that has the power to discharge patients from detention, community treatment orders, guardianship and conditional discharge</td>
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<td>AC</td>
<td>Approved Clinician – A mental health professional approved by the Welsh Ministers to act as an approved clinician for the purposes of the Act. In practice, Health Boards take these decisions on behalf of the Welsh Ministers</td>
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<td>Independent Mental Health Advocate – An advocate independent of the team involved in patient care available to offer support to patients.</td>
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APPENDIX A: Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation
1. INTRODUCTION

Associate Hospital Managers as appointed by the Health Board have the authority to detain patients under the Mental Health Act 1983 (Act). The Health Board is defined as the ‘Hospital Managers’ for the purposes of the Act.

Hospital Managers have a range of responsibilities, including:
- Ensuring that patient's care and treatment complies with the Act;
- Authority to detain patients admitted under the Act; and
- Power to discharge certain patients (sec 23 of the Act) - which can only be exercised by three or more members of a committee formed for that purpose.

There are many other responsibilities and duties which are carried out on the Health Boards behalf by ‘authorised officers’ (staff) of our hospitals. These include receipt, scrutiny and amendment of detention documents, ensuring patients’ rights are made known to them, referral for and arranging Mental Health Review Tribunals, ensuring compliance with renewal/extension, consent treatment and second opinion dates. This is not an exhaustive list as there are many other duties. These roles and responsibilities will be given in more detail below and in the scheme of delegation at Appendix A.

It is the hospital managers who have the authority to detain patients under the Act and have equivalent responsibilities towards patients subject to Community Treatment Orders (CTO), where the patient was detained at the “responsible hospital” immediately before becoming subject to the community treatment order (CTO), even if those patients are not being treated at one of their hospitals. The procedure provides assurance that the health board as a detaining authority has formally delegated specific statutory duties and powers to specific individuals (or groups of individuals).

The health board’s Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee is responsible for providing assurance to the health board hospital managers that those functions of the Act, as which they have delegated to officers and staff are being carried out correctly; and that the wider operation of the Act in relation to the health board’s area is operating properly.

2. PROCEDURE STATEMENT

The Health Board is responsible for ensuring that the Mental Health Act is used lawfully and fairly, in accordance with the principles of the Mental Health Act Code of Practice for Wales, including ensuring all paperwork is scrutinised for validity, that detained patients are informed of their rights, and that patients are referred to the Tribunal within the timeframes set out in the Mental Health Act. They also have various powers, to discharge patients from detention, transfer detained patients to other hospitals in accordance with regulations, as well as withholding a patient’s outgoing correspondence where the law permits.

People taking decisions under the Act must recognise and respect the diverse needs, values and circumstances of each patient, including their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion, or belief, sex and sexual orientation and culture, or any combination of these. There must be no unlawful discrimination
and reasonable adjustments must be made. Individuals’ protected characteristics should be taken into account and good practice followed in all aspects of care and treatment planning and implementation.

3. SCOPE

The Health Board has in place appropriate governance arrangements to monitor and review the exercise of functions under the Act on its behalf. The Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee are specifically for this purpose.

The scheme of delegation covers mental health patients across community, outpatient and inpatient settings. Hospital managers must ensure that those acting on their behalf are competent to do so and receive suitable training to ensure they exercise their functions appropriately to ensure the functions are carried out on a day to day basis.

4. THE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS OF HOSPITAL MANAGERS

The statutory functions of the hospital managers are as follows:

6.1. Receipt, Scrutiny and Recording of Documentation

Hospital Managers should formally delegate their duties to receive and scrutinise admission documents to a limited number of officers, who may include clinical staff on wards. Someone with the authority to receive admission documents should be available whenever patients may be admitted to the hospital. A manager of appropriate seniority should take overall responsibility on behalf of the hospital managers for the proper receipt and scrutiny of documents. (Code of Practice for Wales, 35.8).

It is necessary that all detention papers undergo both administrative and medical scrutiny to ensure that they are technically correct and that the clinical reasons given are sufficient for detaining the patient under the Act. The Mental Health Act administrator will carry out the administrative scrutiny and a consultant who is not involved with the patient concerned will carry out the medical scrutiny in accordance with local practice.

The MHA Administration team provides the Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee with details of defective admission documents and of any subsequent action on a regular basis.

Authority for checking that detention documents are in order and receiving papers authorising a patients’ detention can only be undertaken by:

- The Mental Health Act Department
- Shift Coordinator
- Night Site Manager

All of the above staff should receive regular training and instruction in the receipt of admission documentation.
Section 15 of the Act describes the types of errors that may be rectified in the statutory documents. The person who signed the document in question must complete the rectification and that must take place within 14 days of the date of the Form HO14 (record of receipt of admission). Further guidance on the subject of rectification may be found in Part II of the Act.

If admission documents reveal a defect which fundamentally invalidates the application and which cannot, therefore, be rectified under section 15, the patient can no longer be detained on the basis of the application. Authority for detention can only be obtained through a new application. The hospital managers should use their power under section 25 to discharge the patient. The patient should be informed both verbally and in writing.

Responsibility for coordinating this at Cardiff and Vale UHB rests with the Mental Health Act Department

6.2. Report on hospital in-patient (section 5, MHA)
Hospital Managers should monitor the use of section 5 including:

- How quickly patient are assessed for detention and discharged from the holding power
- The attendance times of doctors and approved clinicians following the use of section 5(4)
- The proportion of cases in which applications for detention are, in fact, made following use of section 5

Hospital managers should ensure suitably qualified, experienced and competent nurses are available where there is a possibility of section 5(4) being invoked.

The role of monitoring is provided by the Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee who will be informed via the Mental Health Act Department

6.3. Emergency admission (section 4, MHA)
Hospital managers should monitor the use of section 4 and ensure that second doctors are available to visit a patient within a reasonable time after being requested. This will also be monitored by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW).

The role of monitoring is provided by the Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee who will be informed via the Mental Health Act Department

6.4. Allocation of a Responsible Clinician
Every patient must have an allocated Responsible Clinician (RC). (Code of Practice for Wales, Chapter 36) The RC is the approved clinician who will have overall responsibility for the patient’s care and treatment. The patient should be informed of the identity of the RC and of any change. Chapter 36 of the Code of Practice for Wales outlines the functions of responsible clinicians and approved clinicians and steps to be followed to ensure that:

- The patient’s RC is the available Approved Clinician (AC) with the most appropriate expertise to meet the patient’s main assessment and treatment needs;
A patient’s RC can be easily determined;
Cover arrangements are in place when the RC is not available;
There is a system for keeping the appropriateness of the RC is under review.

The allocation of the Responsible Clinician is delegated to the Clinical Team and the Clinical Director. A list of Approved Clinicians in Wales and those employed by the Health Board is held by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

6.5. Transfer between hospitals (section 19, MHA)
Section 19 of the Act allows hospital managers to authorise the transfer of most detained patients from one hospital to another. Decisions on transfers may be delegated to a person who could, but need not be the patient’s responsible clinician. For restricted patients, the consent of the Secretary of State for Justice is also required.

The Mental Health Act Department, Shift Coordinator or Night Site Manager will perform this role on behalf of the Hospital managers.

6.6. Transfers into/from guardianship (section 7, MHA)
Section 19 allows hospital managers to authorise the transfer of most detained patients into guardianship with the agreement of the relevant local authority. This procedure avoids the need to discharge the patient from detention and making a separate guardianship application. There should be good reasons for any transfer into guardianship and the needs and interest of the patient must be central to decision making.

The Mental Health Act Department, Shift Coordinator or Night Site Manager will perform this role on behalf of the Hospital managers.

6.7. Transfer and assignment of responsibility for CTO patients (sec 19A, MHA)
The managers of a hospital to which a CTO patient has been recalled may authorise the patient’s transfer to another hospital during the 72 hour maximum period of recall. With the agreement of the hospital to which the patient is being transferred, the hospital managers may also reassign responsibility for CTO patients so that a different hospital will become the patient’s responsible hospital.

The Mental Health Act Department, Shift Coordinator or Night Site Manager will perform this role on behalf of the Hospital managers.

6.8. Removal and return of patients (section 86)
Part 6 of the Act enables the transfer between the United Kingdom jurisdictions, Channel Islands or Isle of Man of detained patients (otherwise than under s.35, s.36 or s.38), patients subject to guardianship or to compulsion in the community where the patient concerned needs to remain subject to detention, guardianship or the equivalent CTO on arrival in Wales.
Following approval by Welsh Ministers this role is performed on behalf of the Hospital managers by the Mental Health Act Department.

6.9. Responsibilities under Community Treatment Order
There is a duty on the hospital managers to take steps to ensure patients understand what a CTO means for them and their rights to apply for discharge. A copy of this information must also be provided to the nearest relative, where practicable, if the patient does not object. (Code of Practice for Wales, Chapter 4)

The RC, Care Coordinator or qualified nurses will perform this role on behalf of the hospital managers.

6.10. Recall to hospital for CTO patients (sec 17E)
Following recall, the hospital managers are responsible for ensuring no patient is detained for longer than 72 hours unless the CTO is revoked. The relevant statutory form must be completed on the patient’s arrival at hospital. Arrangements should be put in place to ensure the patient’s length of stay following the time of detention after recall, as recorded on the form, is carefully monitored.

The completion of form CP6 will be undertaken by Mental Health Act Department or Shift Coordinator on behalf of the hospital managers.

6.11. Duty to provide information to patients
Section 132 and 132A of the Act require hospital managers to take such steps as are practicable to ensure that patients who are detained in hospital under the Act, or who are subject to a community treatment order (CTO), understand important information about how the Act applies to them. This must be done as soon as practicable after the start of the patient’s detention or the CTO. (Code of Practice for Wales, Chapter 4)

Information should be given to the patient both verbally and in writing, in accessible formats, appropriate to the patient’s needs, e.g. Braille, Moon, easy read, and in a language the patient understands. It would not be sufficient to repeat what is already written on an information leaflet as a way of providing information verbally.

Patients should be given all relevant information, which includes how to make a complaint, how to access advocacy services, legal advice and the role of the Inspectorates.

Those with responsibility for the care and treatment of patients should be aware of the most effective way to community with each individual and their family, carers and relevant others. Everything possible should be done to overcome barriers to effective communication.

Under section 133 of the Act, the hospital managers must inform the nearest relative (as defined in section 26 of the 1983 Act) when a patient is released from detention, including a patient who is to be discharged from hospital under CTO. It need not be provided, if either the patient or nearest relative have requested that this information should not be given.
The role for ensuring that the patient and nearest relative are informed in line with the above requirements rests with the Mental Health Act Department or suitably experienced nursing staff.

6.12. **Correspondence of patients**

Section 134(1)(a) of the Act allows hospital managers to withhold outgoing post from detained patient if the person it is addressed to has requested in writing that they do so and the procedure to be followed in the event of the hospital managers receiving a written request for outgoing mail to be withheld.

The role of monitoring is provided by the Mental Health and Capacity Legislation Committee who will be informed via the Mental Health Act Department.

6.13. **Information about Independent Mental Health Advocates**

Section 130D places a duty on hospital managers (and in certain cases RCs) to provide qualifying patients with information that advocacy services are available and how to obtain that help.

This role will be provided on behalf of the hospital managers by ward nursing staff, community staff or the Mental Health Act department in accordance with (Code of Practice for Wales 37.15)

6.14. **Duty to refer cases to the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales (sec 68, MHA)**

Hospital Managers must refer a patient’s case to the MHRT for Wales in the circumstances set out in section 68 of the Act below:

- Who has not exercised their right to apply (or been referred by Welsh Ministers or the hospital managers as set out in section 68;
- Who has been transferred from guardianship under regulations under section 19 and has not applied for a tribunal;
- Who has not had an application made on his behalf by the nearest relative or by virtue of a referral by Welsh Ministers;
- If the authority for detention is renewed and the patient has not had a MHRT for more than three years, or a patient under 18 years of age, for one year; or
- On the revocation of a Community Treatment Order (CTO)

The responsibility for ensuring that systems are in place to make a reference to the MHRTfW within the timescales will be performed by the Mental Health Act Department on behalf of the hospital managers.
6.15. **Referrals to the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales by Welsh Ministers**

Hospital managers should consider asking Welsh Ministers to exercise their power of referral for a patient (whose rights under Article 5(4) may be at risk of being violated) to have their case considered by the MHRT for Wales (Chapter 37.40 of the Code refers).

The hospital managers should normally seek such a reference in any cases where:

- A patient’s detention under section has been extended under section 29 of the Act pending the outcome of an application to the county court for the displacement of their nearest relative
- The patient lacks the capacity to request a reference
- The patient’s case has never been considered by the MHRT for Wales or a significant period has passed since it was last considered

The Mental Health Act Department will perform this duty on behalf of the hospital managers.

6.16. **Renewal of authority to detain (section 20, MHA)**

The hospital managers should consider a report made under section 20(3) or section 20A(4) before the current period of detention or community treatment expires. If a responsible clinician does not hold a review before the period of detention or CTO expires, this should be considered a very serious matter to be urgently reviewed. The hospital managers should have processes in place to ensure that this does not happen.

The Responsible Clinician has responsibility for completing the report to renew a patient’s detention or community treatment order. The Mental Health Act Department receives the report on behalf of the hospital managers and arranges a hearing for the hospital managers to sit and consider the renewal of detention.

6.17. **Report barring discharge by nearest relative (section 25, MHA)**

The nearest relative may order the discharge of a patient detained under section 3, or CTO by giving 72 hours notice to the hospital managers in writing. The person receiving the notice must note the time and date received.

The receiving of this notification of intent to discharge the patient is delegated to the Mental Health Act Department; any qualified nursing staff or any Approved Clinician.

The responsible clinician may within the 72-hour period furnish Form NR1 barring the discharge by the nearest relative.

The duty of informing the nearest relative in writing of the decision on behalf of the hospital managers is delegated to the Mental Health Act Department.
6.18. **Duties in respect of victims**

The Domestic Violence, Crime & Victims Act 2004 (DVCVA) 2004 places a number of duties on hospital managers in relation to certain patients who have committed sexual or violent crimes together with guidance on the exercise of these.

The duties include the following information is communicated to victims:

- When authority to detain a patient expires
- When the patient is discharged, including allowing the victim to make representations about discharge conditions and whether a CTO is to be made
- What conditions of discharge relate to the victim, and when these cease
- The victim’s entitlement to make representations on the need for a CTO and allowing representation concerning the conditions attached to the CTO
- Any conditions on the CTO relating to the victim or their family, and any variation of the conditions
- When the CTO ceases

**Responsible Clinicians** will perform this role on behalf of the hospital managers.

6.19. **Discharge from MHA detention and CTO (section 23, MHA)**

Hospital Managers have the power to discharge certain patients from detention (sec 23 of the Act) which can only be exercised by three or more members of a Committee formed for that purpose. Although the function is delegated to a Committee of three or more lay members, the Health Board remains responsible for this statutory function. A panel of three or more members drawn from the Hospital Managers Power of Discharge Sub-Committee (a Sub-Committee of the Mental Health Legislation Assurance Committee) hear individual cases where patients or their nearest relative have applied for discharge. The panels also sit on renewal hearings; these are collectively known as hospital managers reviews.

Section 23 of the Act (the power to discharge certain patients from detention) is delegated to three or more members of the Hospital Managers Power of Discharge Sub-Committee and the Responsible Clinician.

6.20. **Consent to Treatment**

The hospital managers should ensure that robust procedures are in place to notify the approved clinician in charge of the patient’s treatment, of the expiry of the three-month rule set by section 58 and Part 4A certificates for community patients, and they should check that action has been taken.

**This is delegated to the Mental Health Act Department on behalf of the hospital managers.**

The same reminder system should ensure that patients are asked whether they consent to continued medication.
Responsibility for this task is delegated to the Mental Health Act Department in conjunction with qualified nursing staff and community staff.

If the patient is unwilling to consent or incapable of doing so, the approved clinician in charge of the patient’s treatment must ask Healthcare Inspectorate Wales to arrange for a second opinion appointed doctor (SOAD) to visit the patient and review the proposed treatment.

When a second opinion is required, the hospital managers should ensure that the patient, statutory consultees (one of which is neither a doctor nor a nurse), and any other relevant people, are available to consult with the SOAD, and that the statutory documents are in order and readily available for inspection.

Responsibility for this is delegated to the Responsible Clinicians and Mental Health Act Department in conjunction with qualified nursing staff and community staff.

6.21. Emergency Treatment
The Hospital Managers should monitor the giving of ‘urgent treatment’ under section 62 and 64 of the 1983 Act, and they should ensure that a form is provided for completion by the responsible clinician, or the approved clinician in charge of the patient’s treatment, can record details of:

- the proposed treatment
- why it is immediately necessary to give the treatment
- The length of time for which the treatment was or will be given.

The use of section 62 and 64 will be monitored by the Mental Health Act administration team on behalf of the hospital managers.

6.22. Hospital accommodation for children
Section 131A of the Act puts a duty on hospital managers to ensure any children receiving in-patient care for mental disorder in their hospitals are accommodated in an environment which is suitable for their age and in line with their needs. This duty will apply to children admitted informally to hospitals, as well as those detained under the Act.

The admission of children and young people onto psychiatric wards is monitored by the child and adolescent mental health services on behalf of the hospital managers.

7. TRAINING
The health board will provide ongoing training for staff that have a delegated duty under the scheme of delegation. Details of training courses available can be found by contacting the Mental Health Act Department.
8. IMPLEMENTATION
This document will be widely disseminated to staff in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. It will be published on the organisations intranet sites and referred to during training relevant to the Act.

9. RESPONSIBILITIES
9.1. Chief Executive
The Chief Executive Officer has overarching responsibility for ensuring that Cardiff and Vale University Health Board is compliant with the law in relation to the Mental Health Act.

9.2. Chief Operating Officer
The Chief Operating Officer is the Executive Lead for Mental Health. He has overarching responsibility for ensuring compliance with the contents of this procedure.

9.3 Designated Individuals
The procedure states which individuals are responsible for certain sections of the Mental Health Act under the Scheme of Delegation at Appendix A

10. REVIEW
This Procedure will be reviewed following any changes in legislation to the Mental Health Act, 1983.

11. REFERENCES
All staff will work within the Mental Health Act 1983 and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Wales 2007, Mental Capacity Act 2005, and Human Rights Act 1998.

Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales - www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/mental-health

12. APPENDICES
Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation.
APPENDIX A: Hospital Managers’ Scheme of Delegation

The arrangements for authorising decisions should be set out in a scheme of delegation approved by the resolution of the body itself. (Code of Practice for Wales, chapter 37.8)

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