

The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat

Merseyside Police's response so far

Detective Superintendent Tim Keelan
Con Hayley Sherwen



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Demands

- MH impacts upon police forces much more widely than simply responding to people in mental ill health / crisis under s 136 MHA:
- 20% of calls to police contain a MH component
- MHA assessments
- S135 MHA
- ASB
- Neighbour Disputes
- Domestic Disputes
- Harassment
- Frequent Callers
- Custody
- Use of s5 Mental Capacity Act, 2005
- M H services not structured to meet demand after 17.00 hrs



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S136 MHA process on Merseyside

- Across Merseyside we have 650+ s136 detentions annually (Mersey Care, Cheshire & Wirral & 5 Boroughs mental health trusts)
- 2011 - Average duration of S136 detention - 9hrs 15 mins
- 01/04/13 – 31/03/14 only **3** 136 detentions went to police cells
- The individual in mental health crisis was at the place of safety with 2 officers for that length of time
- Issues for Merseyside Police;
 - 2 officers & a vehicle off the road
 - Cost - £350 per S136
 - Opportunity costs / response to public reduced



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Intervention

- Mersey Care formed Multi-Agency Strategic Group to address the issue:
- Attendees - Mersey Care, Police, Acute Trusts, Local Authorities, Commissioners, Ambulance Service
- Addressed Issues such as;
 - Mapped the whole process, Data Capture (BiT), blockages, training



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Solutions

- BiT – data dashboard
- S 136 coordinator
- 12 Support staff posts
- S136 protocol compliance
- AMHP hub
- RAG – re police remaining with individual detained under S136



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Introduction of RAG risk assessment

- Based on NPIA 136 RAG assessment
- Incorporates any pertinent info from hospital systems
- Critical Incident Manager (Inspector) determines RAG rating
- **Low (not requiring police presence)** – after completion of 136 form, inform nurse in charge, that the police will not be remaining
- **Medium (requiring police presence)** – the police will be remaining with the individual for a maximum of 3 hours.
- **High (requiring police presence)** – Police MUST remain with the individual for the duration of their assessment



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Impact

- 2014 - Average duration of S136 – 2 hrs 50 mins
- Individuals detained under S136 waiting far less time to be assessed and receive an outcome
- Individuals detained under S136 had support staff to accompany them rather than officers
- Reduction of waiting time for officers
- However, few benefits for partners, as numbers of S136 detentions remained high



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Triage Car

- Joint Merseyside Police and Mersey Care NHS Trust initiative.
- Unmarked vehicle crewed by a Police Officer and Mental Health Practitioner.
- Coverage of Liverpool North, Liverpool South and Sefton BCUs, between the hours of 4pm and midnight.
- Telephone advice and assistance/assessment at incidents with a mental health component when requested by patrols via FCC.
- Where possible, TC should attend incidents where S136 being considered (aim to reduce S136 incidents)
- TC will offer advice to officers regarding S136 or arrest, offer appointments to individuals, contact care coordinator, telephone triage could mean police deployment not necessary, background info to containments/negotiating incidents.
- Other areas have seen 40 % reduction in 136 detentions



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Joint working with MCT when dealing with an individual in crisis.

- Information Sharing at Crisis Incidents
- PNC protocol
- Criminal Justice Liaison team;
 - 07.00 – 22.00 hrs 7 days a week
- Current projects;
 - S 135 – Crisis in private premises
 - Advanced Statements / care plans



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22/06/11 17:14 05LIMY04 NU12/0001 JP400M02 059032

UPDATES COMPLETED - PLEASE REVIEW RECORD

SRCH 05X1:BIBBY/MICHAEL::M:::

AS:2 DH:2 LX:1(I)

BIBBY, MICHAEL

PNCID 82/21096C

01/02/57 WARRINGTON

CRO 21096/82P

MALE WHITENORTHEURO

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RECORD LAST UPDATED 22/06/11 17:14

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HELP

ABANDON TRANSACTION? N..

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01/02/57 WARRINGTON

MALE

WHITENORTHEURO

PNCID 82/21096C

CRO 21096/82P

RECORD OTHER DETAILS (2)

OWNER UPDATED

IF ARRESTED ON OTHER MATTERS, MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT REQUIRED

05PP 22/06/11

BY MERSEYCAR SILVER **CONTACT 05PP 24 HOURS**

05PP 22/06/11

PAGE DH....

HELP

ABANDON TRANSACTION? N..

Joint training

- Armed response Officers
- Front line
- Custody
- Force Contact Centre
- Triage Officers
- Incl Experts by Experience



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Concordat

- Evidence of sound local governance arrangements –Merseyside are Chairing their first meeting in September of a MH & Social Care Board - the PCC has approved & fully supports this proposal
- Merseyside Police have a comprehensive policy ‘Responding to People with Mental Health or Learning Disability.’ covering all aspects of mental health & policing and already well established links with partners
- Whilst the Force in conjunction with MCT has made great strides towards the principles of the Concordat, there is concern that in the event that other partners do not fully comply (with the voluntary requirements) of the Concordat, there is little to compel them to do so aside from the annual summit of signatories, where partners are to hold each other to account.



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Thank You

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