



Cumbria, Northumberland,
Tyne and Wear
NHS Foundation Trust

Street Triage Teams

Information Leaflet



Caring
Discovering
Growing
Together



**NORTHUMBRIA
POLICE**

Introduction

Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust are working with Northumbria Police and Cumbria Constabulary to improve care for people experiencing mental health issues who come into contact with the Police.

The Street Triage Teams operate across Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Sunderland, South Tyneside, Gateshead and East Cumbria areas. The teams aim to improve access to mental health services and avoid preventable detentions when using section 136 of the Mental Health Act.

What is section 136?

Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 provides a police officer with the power to remove someone found in places other than dwellings who, in the officers opinion:

- has a mental health condition
- is in need of care or control
- requires a place of safety for their own interests or for the protection of others.

If you are placed on a Section 136 police work together with mental health services to share information and ensure that you are taken to a place of safety. You will be supported by a mental health nurse while you wait to be assessed by two doctors and an approved mental health professional.

How we will work with you

The team of nurses and police officers are based in Sunderland, Newcastle and Carlise, and work seven days a week to ensure those who come into contact with the police receive a high quality, effective service and are able to signpost to support services.

You will be seen by a mental health nurse in an appropriate place, this could be your home, police station or a street triage vehicle.

With your consent the service contacts other professionals who are involved with you and can provide an assessment of your mental health or learning disability needs.

Staff can also arrange a referral to a community mental health team, crisis team or provide self-referral information to drug and alcohol services, talking therapies or other community resources.

Sharing information

Your information will be kept confidential as far as possible. However, information will be shared with other professional services if risks to yourself or others, including children, are identified.

Your GP (doctor) may be informed of your meeting with the team.

What if I have a comment, suggestion, compliment or complaint about the service?

If you want to make a comment, suggestion, compliment or complaint you can:

- talk to the people directly involved in your care
- ask a member of staff for a feedback form, or complete on the Trust website www.cntw.nhs.uk (click on the 'Contact Us' tab)
- telephone the Complaints Department
Tel: 0191 245 6672
- email complaints@cntw.nhs.uk (Please note that information sent to the Trust via email is sent at your own risk).

Further information

For information about our Trust Services, or general information about conditions and treatments and organisations offering support, please see our website www.cntw.nhs.uk

Agreed plan/advice given

The following has been advised

Name of Service User
(please print)

Signed
(Service User)

Name of Staff
(please print)

Signed
(Member of staff)

Date

Reference

A safer place to be, Care Quality Commission, October 2014

Further information about the content, reference sources or production of this leaflet can be obtained from the Patient Information Centre. If you would like to tell us what you think about this leaflet please get in touch.

This information can be made available in a range of formats on request (eg Braille, audio, larger print, easy read, BSL or other languages). Please contact the Patient Information Centre
Tel: 0191 246 7288

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