

## Risk Considerations to Support National Decision Model

This will be used in the circumstances where there is risk discussion taking place between Police and Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust/NTW) staff. This may be in situations of Section 136s, Section 135s, AWOLs, Police support required on a ward or in an assessment to name a few areas.

The factors below should be used as guidance between Police and NHS professionals where a risk is identified, but not clearly Low or high. Understanding should be given to the differences in professional language used by Police and NHS staff, the outcome being to reduce strain on both Police and NHS resources. Police Officers will use the NDM to assist in the decision making process using the factors highlighted below, to support that process.

<p><b>1: Risk to Others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weapons</li> <li>▪ Violence/Threats of violence</li> <li>▪ Information/Intelligence/Evidence of planning violence</li> <li>▪ Incoherent and unreasonable due to alcohol/drugs</li> <li>▪ Verbally abusive</li> <li>▪ Damage to property/Threats to damage</li> <li>▪ Capability and intent to cause harm to others/property</li> <li>▪ Wishes to be supported/treated</li> <li>▪ Previous history re above – How recent/relevant</li> </ul>	<p><b>2: Risk to Self</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Police/NHS – warning markers from each agency information system</li> <li>▪ Information from families/friends/associates/others</li> <li>▪ Deliberate self-harm</li> <li>▪ Suicide/attempt/planning</li> <li>▪ Managing physical health/wellbeing</li> <li>▪ Acute physical illness which requires immediate treatment</li> <li>▪ Incoherent and unreasonable due to alcohol/drugs</li> <li>▪ Information that patient is at risk from others</li> <li>▪ Significant personal neglect identified</li> <li>▪ Social isolation – friends/family to support</li> <li>▪ Previous history re above – How recent/relevant</li> </ul>
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<p><b>3: Risk to Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weapons</li> <li>▪ Violence/Threats of violence</li> <li>▪ Body language</li> <li>▪ Requires restraint</li> <li>▪ Aggressive behaviour</li> <li>▪ Verbally abusive</li> <li>▪ Damage to property/threats to damage</li> <li>▪ Incoherent and unreasonable due to alcohol/drugs</li> <li>▪ Capability and intent to cause harm to others/property</li> <li>▪ Skill level/strength</li> <li>▪ Wishes to be supported/treated/ rapport with staff</li> <li>▪ Previous history re above – How recent/relevant</li> </ul>	<p><b>4: Warning signs / Relapse indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Loud or aggressive language</li> <li>▪ Verbal threats, pointing or gesturing</li> <li>▪ Pacing, large movements</li> <li>▪ Un-cooperative/level of engagement</li> <li>▪ Evidence of insight and capacity</li> <li>▪ Depressive state/Hopelessness</li> <li>▪ Objective/Subjective</li> <li>▪ Observational balance</li> <li>▪ Observation of psychosis/delusions/ command hallucinations/thought disorder</li> <li>▪ Ambivalence/hostility</li> <li>▪ Intellect/ability to communicate need</li> </ul>
<p><b>5: Unknown Risks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demeanour</li> <li>▪ Volatility</li> <li>▪ Impulsivity</li> <li>▪ Circumstances presented</li> <li>▪ Observations by others/professionals</li> <li>▪ Cultural issues/lifestyle/language barriers</li> </ul>	<p><b>6: Risk of Absconding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environment</li> <li>▪ Escape</li> <li>▪ Wandering off</li> </ul>