



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Training materials to support the implementation of the Mental Health Act 2007

A Guidance Note

Background

The existing legislation governing the reception, care and treatment of certain people with a mental disorder is the Mental Health Act 1983. The Mental Health Act 2007 brings certain amendments to this legislation; it is also being used to introduce the deprivation of liberty safeguards into the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and to extend the rights of victims by amending the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004.

The Welsh Assembly Government commissioned the development of learning resources to support the implementation of the Mental Health Act 2007 in Wales. These learning resources have been developed to ensure that educational material is accessible to all staff and organisations affected by the legislative changes.

The resources focus on the changes introduced by the Mental Health Act 2007 and the related provisions of the *Mental Health Act 1983 Code of Practice for Wales*.

The purpose of these resources is to offer a framework of training relevant to all levels of staff within organisations and to provide access to appropriate training materials in either a workshop or workbook format.

Summary of training materials

When all of the materials have been published there will be eight modules available:

- **Core module** – designed for all staff working within mental health and learning disability services. This module is suitable for all staff working in those services, and can be supplemented where applicable by additional specialist modules (see below).
- **General awareness** – designed for staff not working in mainstream mental health or learning disability services, and is therefore suitable for professionals in A&E Departments, medical wards, ambulance staff, police, etc.
- **Approved mental health professionals** – a specialist additional module designed for existing Approved Social Workers on the functions of Approved Mental Health Professionals and the changes that the 2007 Act will bring to their role.
- **Approved Clinicians and Responsible Clinicians** – a specialist additional module designed for existing Responsible Medical Officers (including Community Responsible Medical Officers) on the functions of Approved and Responsible Clinicians and the changes that the 2007 Act will bring to their role.
- **Section 12(2) Approved Doctors** – a specialist additional module for existing section 12 doctors which focuses on the relevant changes to the 1983 Act made by the 2007 Act.

- **Hospital managers** – a stand alone module for those hospital managers who exercise the power of discharge in respect of patients subject to the 1983 Act. This module focuses on the changes brought about by the 2007 Act as they will impact on the power of discharge.
- **Registered care home managers** – a stand alone module which focuses in the main on the deprivation of liberty safeguards and supervised community treatment (the elements introduced by the 2007 Act that are likely to have the most impact for those settings).
- **Third sector** – this module has been designed for mental health charities, voluntary organisations, etc, and is aimed at providing them with information to support service users on what they should expect from services in the context of the 2007 Act and Code of Practice for Wales

Each module will comprise of a range of materials designed to support different learning styles and methods of delivery:

- **Workshop approach** - there are standard PowerPoint slides designed for use in 'classroom' style sessions, which may be adapted for local use. The slides accompany the facilitator guidance and resource packs which also include session notes, handouts and activities, together with suggested timings. There are participant packs available to support this form of learning.
- **Workbook approach** - for people who prefer to learn on their own or cannot attend a workshop, there are workbooks which are consistent with the workshop modules.

For each module the Welsh Assembly Government will be making available:

- Facilitator guidance
- Facilitator resource pack
- PowerPoint slides
- Participant pack
- Workbook (for stand alone learning)

The materials may be adapted for local use as appropriate.

Guidance for planning training

To support planning for the delivery of the training, the table overleaf identifies particular staff groups and suggests the modules which would be suitable for completion by them.

