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Chair: Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services

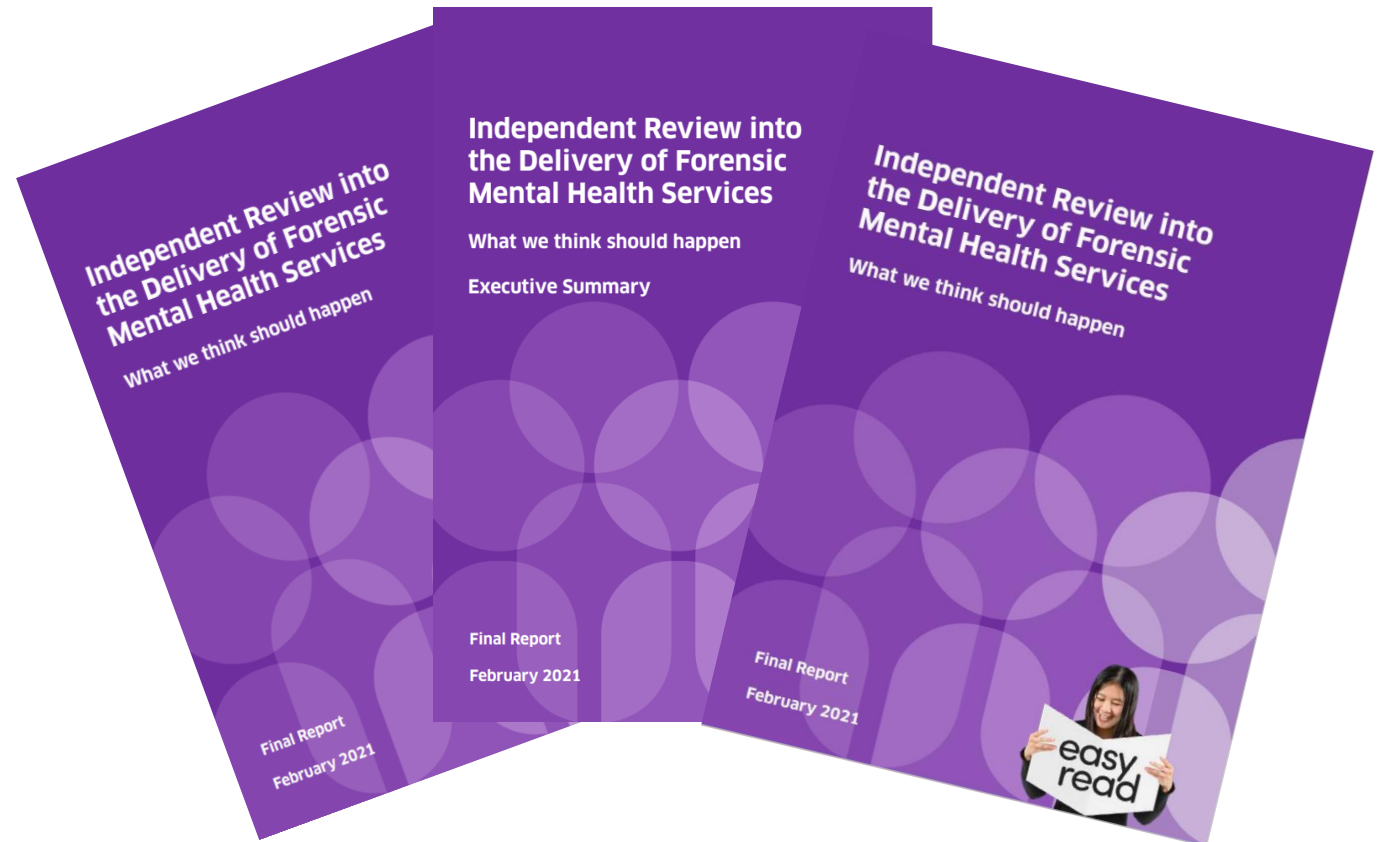


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## What people told us August 2020



## What we think should happen February 2021



## 67 Recommendations

- Strategic governance and oversight
- Defining forensic mental health services
- Women's pathway
- Capacity and transitions
- Person-centred practices
- Specific populations
- Sharing information and expertise

## Principles

- Human rights
- Least restrictive option
- Equality of access
- Reciprocity
- Person-centred
- Rehabilitation focused

## Strategic governance and oversight

ISSUES: variation of provision; a lack of clear pathways through services; lack of oversight, accountability and operational control at a national strategic level.

- A new NHS Board for forensic mental health services.
  - All Inpatient and community services (High – community)
  - Not forensic LD at low and community levels
  - Not based at the State hospital

## Defining mental health services

ISSUE: (non-offending) people falling into 'forensic'; people not being 'forensic enough'. Tension between preventative and needs-based services - share expertise where most needed, resource limitations and the need protect existing services e.g. mentally disordered offenders.

## Women's pathway

ISSUE: No high secure provision for women available in Scotland. Lack of clear pathways for women, reliance on out of area placements, independent provision. Need to ensure parity of provision which responds to the different needs of men and women.

## Capacity and transitions

ISSUES: capacity, waiting lists at low and medium security; bottleneck of people waiting on accommodation/support packages in the community; people in conditions of excessive security.

Lack of performance data to monitor, report and legal redress for people in low secure services.

- Community Forensic Mental Health teams resourced appropriately.
- Right of appeal at low secure.
  - Community facilities/accommodation

## Person-centred practices – care and treatment, environment

ISSUES: limited social work in MDTs; varied experiences of people being involved in decision making about their care/having enough information to be involved; varied experience of carers and their difficulties in navigating the system; the reticence to complain; suspension of detention plans not transferred with person.

- Embedded social work posts in MDTs.
- Carers' voice.
- Single rooms for anyone detained
- Establish standards for least restrictive practices (privacy to support relationships; access to bedrooms, belonging and technology).



## Other populations

- A number of recommendations for services for people with a learning disability, including:
  - Presumption to go through the criminal justice system.
  - Research on disparities – ‘disposal’ of people with LD
  - Management of low and community forensic learning disability service.
  - Recommendations for standards for forensic learning disability services.
  - Embedding of forensic expertise in learning disability services.
  - Accommodation options.
- Needs assessments related to neurodevelopmental disorders to inform future provision.

## Sharing information and expertise

ISSUES: sharing of information between services; common risk assessment tools; shared forensic expertise; training needs for staff and external partners.

- Single Shared record across Forensic Services
- National framework for provision court reports (within one year)
- Review of disciplines that can complete court reports.
- Number of recommendations around training and research.
  - continued support of School of Forensic Mental Health
  - develop standards for staff skills and training
  - provide development for community providers and partner agencies

## Final Thought – from 1532

*And let it be noted that there is no more delicate matter to take in hand, nor more dangerous to conduct, nor more doubtful in its success, than to set up as a leader in the introduction of changes.*

*For he who innovates will have for his enemies all those who are well off under the existing order of things, and only the lukewarm supporters in those who might be better off under the new.*

*This lukewarm temper arises partly from the fear of adversaries who have the laws on their side and partly from the incredulity of mankind, who will never admit the merit of anything new, until they have seen it proved by the event.*

*—Machiavelli, 1532*



- Final report: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/independent-forensic-mental-health-review-final-report/>
- Review info: <https://www.gov.scot/groups/forensic-mental-health-services-independent-review/>



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