

## Street Triage team

How it works.

## Issues and Problems which led to the street triage team being created

- \* The lack of mental health awareness among police officers and police staff.
- \* Frontline police lack of training and policy guidance in suicide prevention
- \* Failure of procedures to provide adequate care to vulnerable people in custody
- \* The cost of detaining a person under Section 136 is estimated at £1,780. This figure includes only the cost to the police and does not include health care professionals needed to assess the person under section 136

## The Team

- \* An inspector
- \* One clinical lead
- \* 6 police officers
- \* 8 mental health nurses
- \* A pool of resilience police officers
- \* South of Tyne team are based at Hopewood Park covering Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland
- \* North of Tyne team are based at Ravenswood Clinic covering Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland
- \* Working 10am to 3am

# S136

We know it's old news  
but.....

## Place of Safety Orders

**Part X** of the Mental Health Act 1983

**Section 135:** warrant authorising access to people in their own homes

**Section 136:** temporary detention in a place of safety while assessment made; instigated by the police 'in a place to which the public have access'

**Place of Safety:** defined as a 'hospital, police station, mental nursing home or residential home or any other suitable place'

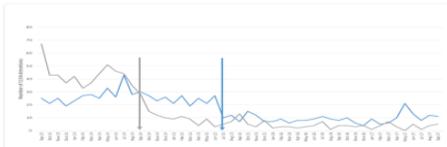
## Reduction in S136 detentions

### Street Triage

**Results:**

- The annual rate of S136 detentions reduced by 56% in the first year of ST (from 59.8 per 100,000 population to 26.4 per 100,000)
- The reduction was 78% or higher when fully operating
- There were 1,623 ST contacts in three localities during the first year of ST; there were 403 fewer S136 detentions
- There was a reduction in the number and proportion of adult admissions that originated from S136 detentions

Monthly number of S136 detentions. Grey line represents the South locale, blue line represents the North. Vertical arrows indicate the commencement of Street.



## Multiple s136 detentions

- **642** individuals were held under S136 in the baseline year. **534** individuals held once, and **108** held multiple times. On average **1.3 times** (range **1-12**).
- In the first year of ST the number fell to **330** (**287** held once, **43** held multiple times, mean = **1.2**, range **1-6**).
- In the second year of ST the number fell to **144** (**131** held once, **13** held multiple times, mean = **1.1**, range **1-5**).
- The proportion of individuals who were held multiple times in a year fell from **17%** in the baseline to **9%** in the second year of street triage (Chi-square = 6.7, df = 2, p = 0.034).

However, we are not  
a....

# one-trick pony

Syllabification: one-trick po-ny

**noun** *informal*: A person or thing with only one special feature, talent, or area of expertise.

- ❖ S135
- ❖ CTO recalls
- ❖ Assist AMPHs with MHA assessments (when appropriate)
- ❖ Help to inform risk assessments
- ❖ Work with CPNs to devise crisis and contingency plans
- ❖ Offer expert advice to Police Officers, Nurses, Local Authority etc.

## So why does it work so well?

- Commitment from Northumbria Police and NTW
- Dedicated team members
- Clear lines of supervision for officers and Nurses
- Joint training days
- Clear lines of communication (at least so I thought)

## How it works in practice



### Street Triage - Conclusions

- There is evidence to support the hypothesis that ST decreases the rate of s136 detention, and particularly multiple s136 on same person
- Four times as many ST contacts as there are reductions in s136
- When operating across the whole of NTW, ST resulted in 50 fewer S136 detentions a month, which represents a substantial reduction – approximately 78% - 88% reduction
- Outcomes of s136 have changes after a year

### Street Triage - Questions

- Does Street Triage broaden access for a difficult to reach group?
- What interventions are delivered and are there differences in clinical outcomes?
- Has there been any change in Serious Incidents?
- How satisfied are service users, carers and staff?
- Will this reverse increasing S136 in England?

## Questions

