

Monmouthshire County Council

Social and Health Services

IMPLEMENTATION OF Part 11 OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING ACT 2014 – DELIVERY OF CARE AND SUPPORT IN THE SECURE ESTATE.

1 - Introduction

Part 11 of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 concerns adults with care and support needs in prison, approved premises and bail accommodation, and children with care and support needs in youth detention accommodation, prison, approved premises or bail accommodation; the secure estate.

The overall principles of the Act fully apply to both adults and children who are detained/ residing in the secure estate. Part 11 of the Act and its supporting Regulations and Code of Practice sets out the duties placed on local authorities in respect of adults with care and support needs who are in the secure estate in Wales and a change in how existing responsibilities for the care and support of children in the secure estate (whether detained in England or Wales) are fulfilled. This duty exists regardless of their place of ordinary residence in Wales or elsewhere before their detention.

The majority of the provisions under the 2014 Act apply to those in the secure estate just as they would to individuals living in the community, which includes:

- Population needs assessment.
- Information, advice and assistance.
- Prevention.
- Assessing and meeting need.

The following provisions are disapplied for both children and adults in the secure estate:

- **A person cannot be a carer** within the terms of the Act if they are detained in prison, approved premises or youth detention accommodation.
- **A person cannot receive direct payments** towards meeting the cost of their care and support.
- **A person cannot express preference for accommodation** while they are in custody although they would be able to do so if they were expressing a preference for accommodation they would occupy on their release.
- **A person cannot have their property protected** while they are in prison, youth detention or residing in approved premises.

Local authorities with secure estate establishments within their boundary must meet the care and support duties for those adults detained in them **regardless** of their place of ordinary residence in Wales or elsewhere before their detention. In Wales only Cardiff, Swansea, Bridgend and Monmouthshire have prisons within their boundaries. A new prison is being built in Wrexham and is due to open in 2017.

HMP Usk and Prescoed is in Monmouthshire and it falls to MCC to provide care and support to the prisoners therein.

2 - Usk & Prescoed Prison

Usk is a Category C Prison housing 276 male prisoners. Prescoed is a Category D Open Prison housing 260 male prisoners. Both prisons are managed by a single Governor and staff team. Usk Prison provides a Sex-Offender Programme to relevant prisoners. Although the population of any prison varies over time generally Usk has an older and Prescoed a younger population.

ABUHB commissions a nurse-led Healthcare Team to work in the Prison, Monday – Friday, 9.00 – 5.00. GP services are provided by a contract with Malpas Surgery Newport. A Community Psychiatric Nurse works in the prison attached to the Healthcare Team. Because of this prisoners with more serious medical conditions or disabilities are rarely transferred there. If problems develop or worsen whilst in the Prison the prisoner will usually be transferred to prison with a higher level of medical support. If an Usk prisoner has to attend hospital, he must be accompanied by 2 prison officers, with an inevitable impact of staffing levels in the prison.

3 - Health and Well-being in the Prison

A recent snapshot of the prison population provides an overview of the potential level of need:

Disability	Number of Prisoners with a Disability	
	Usk	Prescoed
Learning Disability (inc. Autism)	3	1
Severe Disfigurement	1	1
Speech Impediment	4	
Dyslexia	21	5
Progressive Condition	22	6
Hearing Impairment (not deaf)	39	5
Learning Difficulties (inc. Dyslexia)	33	21
Visual Impairment (inc. Blind)	31	4
Mental Illness	30	19
Reduced Physical Capacity	34	11

Other Disability	38	14
Reduced Mobility	40	6
No Disability or Disability not Recorded/Disclosed		
No Disability	156	192
No Disability Recorded	108	119
Refused to Disclose	10	5
Detail		
Active Prisoners	273	252
Number of Prisoners with a Disability	139	68
Number of Prisoners with More than One Disability	79	20
Number of Prisoners with No Disability Information Recorded.	1	11

The prison also operates a 'buddy' system whereby able-bodied volunteer prisoners are paid to offer support to less able prisoners below the level of personal care.

Substance Misuse Interventions run by CARATs team involving outside agencies such as Alcoholics Anonymous

Smoking Cessation – Smoking was banned in all prisons from February 2016. A range of interventions are offered to prisoners who now have to cease smoking.

Educational Activities – The prison provides a range of educational and training activities for prisoners including:

- Sex Offender Programme
- OU courses
- Shannon Trust literacy and numeracy programmes
- Various NVQs
- Workshop skills in carpentry, plastering and brickwork

4 - Implementation

Welsh Government established a National Steering Group to oversee the development of this aspect of the act through the Regulations and Code of Practice. This group then transformed into a National Implementation Group to oversee the initial stages of the implementation of the Policy. This group held its last meeting in

March of this year. Welsh Government will be convening wider meeting in February 2017 to look at the lessons of the first 6 months of implementation.

A Local Implementation Group was established in August 2015 and linked in to the National Group. It comprised representatives from the Local Authority, HMP Usk and Prescoed and the ABUHB Prison Healthcare Team.

The Group has developed a Memorandum of Understanding and an Information Sharing Protocol to codify the governance arrangements for this initiative. These documents are attached to this report.

The Deputy Governor of the Prison has been co-opted to the Gwent Adult Safeguarding Board and the lead officer from Monmouthshire Council has been co-opted to the Prison ABUHB Partnership Board.

The Implementation Group will continue to meet throughout 2016 and then the arrangements will be reviewed.

5 - Local Arrangements

Both Prison sites lie within the catchment area of the Monmouth Integrated Team and given the demographics of the prison population it was agreed that the Team would lead in the provision of assessment and care and support. In line with the service models we have been developing in Monmouthshire every element of the Integrated Service would be made available to the Prison (not just the narrower requirements of the Act).

To facilitate this volunteer staff from the Team have undergone enhanced vetting by the Prison Service to allow them to work with prisoners without a supervising prison officer. Vetted staff include social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and direct care staff. Direct Care staff will receive further training to enable them to have 'key privileges' so they can more easily enter and leave the Prison.

It is intended that, within the limitations of the Prison environment, prisoners will receive the same service as anybody in the community. They will be able to self-refer but because of the communication restrictions in the Prison, the Healthcare Team will facilitate referrals. To aid communications the Healthcare Team have been given access to the FLO client record system via 2 Ipads. To protect their privacy prisoners records on FLO will be subject to 'break glass' access.

In meeting the care and support needs of an individual the staff will undertake a proportionate assessment of the individual's needs, determine eligibility and if eligible develop a care and support plan that will promote the personal outcomes identified by the individual.

If people entering the Prison already have a care and support plan in place then admission should trigger a re-assessment or review. Subsequent reviews will be conducted in accordance with the minimum requirements set out in Part 4 of the Act which would include preparation and planning for transfer or release (resettlement).

A member of the Integrated Team will be also attend the weekly Prison Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting to discuss vulnerable prisoners.

Vetted Direct Care staff will provide care services if required by the care plan.

6 - Information Advice and Assistance

Prisoners have the same rights to information, advice and assistance as ordinary citizens but the limitations of the Prison environment and regime mean that general information may have to be modified or new information be developed. It is intended that information requirements will be examined once staff are working regularly in the Prison and can assess what is required.

7 - Transfer of Prisoners

Prisoners can be transferred within the prison system at very short notice. If a prisoner to be transferred has had an assessment and care plan this will need to be shared with the receiving local authority for the new prison. This will require sound communication between the Prison and the Integrated Team to ensure continuity of care for the prisoner.

8 - Training

As with the wider training for the Act, Welsh Government have commissioned Oxford Brookes IPC to develop training materials for this part of Section 11. IPC facilitated 2 training sessions over the summer which involved Integrated Team staff, Healthcare and Prison staff.

Monmouthshire Council's Autism Coordinator will be providing Autism Aware Training firstly for prison and HealthCare Team staff and, in a second phase, for the volunteer prisoner 'buddies'. This work has been taken up nationally and will be provided to all the Welsh Prisons.

Once Integrated Team staff are working in the Prison, they can assess the need for any other training that they could provide to staff and buddies.

9 - Prevention

It is envisaged that the training the Authority is planning to provide will contribute to preventing prisoners becoming less independent. There are already a number of initiatives provide in the prison that address prevention particularly the smoking cessation, substance misuse. When staff are working in the prison they will be able to identify other options for doing preventative work.

10 - Funding

Welsh Government is providing grant funding to the 4 local authorities with prisons in their areas. The funding has been allocated based on the population profiles in the secure estate. Monmouthshire has received **£120,021** for 2016 and **£109,068** for subsequent years. Welsh Government have indicated that they want to put this funding into the Revenue Support Grant when practicable. In line with our approach, the funding will be mostly used to increase capacity in the Monmouth Integrated Team rather than fund dedicated posts. However the contracts for the new posts stipulate that they must work in the prison. A social Worker and an occupational therapist (both full-time) have been recruited at a cost of **£82,000 - £93,000** (dependent on experience). Initially the posts have been recruited on a temporary basis so that the full impact of extending services to the Prisons can be assessed. In the first year **£5,000** will be used to fund an extra day's work for the Autism Coordinator to develop and deliver Autism Aware training to staff in the Prison. The remainder of the funding will be used to purchase additional home care staff as required. The extra funding for the first year can be used to ensure a smooth implementation and purchase information technology.

11 - Looking Forward

It is fair to say that there was a degree of trepidation in both the Prison Service and the Local Authority about this aspect of the Act. The cultures of both organisations would seem completely different but the experience of working together in the Local Implementation Group has proved very positive. The Group agreed at an early stage to be pragmatic about implementing the Act. Both organisations know that this is only the very beginning but there is now a solid foundation for a strong partnership that can only be for the benefit of the prisoners.

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