

## **Hywel Dda University Health Board**

### **Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Directorate**

#### **ROLE DESCRIPTION**

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<b>Role:</b>	Lay Member – Power of Discharge Sub-Committee
<b>Location:</b>	Any NHS site within Hywel Dda University Health Board
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Honorary Appointment – sessional fee
<b>Hours:</b>	Sessional by invitation
<b>Terms:</b>	Renewable following joint review
<b>Remuneration:</b>	Remuneration fee, plus travel and subsistence expenses

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#### **ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Accountable to:	Chair, Power of Discharge Sub-Committee
Time Commitment:	Approximately four sessions per month, attendance at three Sub-Committee meetings and any additional requisite training

#### **ROLE SUMMARY**

The “Hospital Managers” is a statutory role as defined in the Mental Health Act 1983 (2007) (the Act). It provides a safeguard for those patients who are detained under the Act or subject to supervised community treatment and champions their rights.

The Hospital Managers may delegate many of their functions to officers employed by the Health Board except the review of detention or community treatment orders which may only be delegated beyond Hospital Managers to suitably experienced lay members who have been appointed and trained to consider and possibly exercise the power of discharge

Re-appointment of members will be preceded by a bi-annual review.

## **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Hearings**

Power of Discharge Sub-Committee members will (following an initial period of training) be required to attend hearings as a panel member to review detention/ community treatment orders. Having gained experience and attended an additional period of training, members will be invited to chair review panels ensuring that reviews are undertaken in accordance with the rules of natural justice (MHA 1983 Code of Practice for Wales).

They will ensure that the grounds for continuing detention or community treatment are valid.

Those who chair hearings will be required to formally record the evidence considered by the panel in reaching their decision, the reasons for the decision, and the decision itself. They will communicate the reasons for the decision to the patient and other relevant parties involved in the review.

They will record any appropriate recommendations and/or comments arising from hearings.

### **Power of Discharge Sub-Committee Meetings / Training**

To develop relevant knowledge and understanding and to support the function undertaken on behalf of the Hospital Managers, members of the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee are required to attend any training sessions and meetings which are held every four months.

Attend any other dedicated training events.

Provide feedback and report any issues of concern to the Mental Health Act Administration Manager or Chair of the Power of Discharge Sub-Committee.

Participate in the bi-annual appraisal process.

The role will be supported by the Mental Health Act Administration Manager and her deputy.