

Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983:

A summary of the progress so far

Mark Trewin – Social Work Lead – MHAR Working Group

Terms of reference and structure

- **The review is looking at how the legislation in the Mental Health Act 1983 is used and how practice can improve.**
- **The purpose of the review is to understand the reasons for, and develop proposals to help address:**
 - the rising rates of detention under the Act
 - the disproportionate number of people from black and minority ethnic groups detained under the Act
 - processes that are out of step with a modern mental health care system
- **It will produce a report with recommendations for change at the end of 2018.**

Phase 2 topic groups

Following the identification of the review's priorities in its May 2018 interim report, topic groups were established to focus on each of those priorities; to analyse the evidence and feedback; and develop draft recommendations for the review's Chair and Vice Chairs to consider for the final report.

- Understanding increasing rates of detention
- Addressing rising detention rates
- Maximising autonomy
- Detention criteria
- Patient dignity and safety
- Advocacy
- Tribunal, hospital managers, renewals
- Family/carer involvement
- Community Treatment Orders
- Discharge, care planning and aftercare
- African and Caribbean
- Asian and other ethnic minorities
- Children and young people
- Learning disabilities/autism
- Mental Capacity Act interface
- Police role
- Criminal justice system and 'Part 3' of the Act
- Principles underpinning the act