

Malsis Hall – Our Response to the Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Act 2018

This information is additional to the Easy Read Guidance provided by the Department of Health and Social Care in relation to The Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Act 2018.

This details how Malsis Hall complies with the Act and provides additional information to complement the Easy Read guidance.

- **The Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Act 2018 applies to Shelton House Hospital, but we apply the principles of the Act across all of our Service.**
- **Overall the Act wants to reduce the use of force in mental health units.**
- **It ensures people are being treated equally respecting their human rights.**
- **Dr Steve Wilkinson, Medical Director, is nominated as our Responsible Person. It is his responsibility for making sure we comply with the Act.**
- **We also have Policies which include the use of force, and these are called ‘Safer Physical Interventions Policy’ and Reducing Restrictive Interventions Policy’. We consulted with Patients, Service Users and families when reviewing these Policies.**
- **These Policies detail how we keep people safe and treated well and that the use of any force is a last resort.**
- **As part of us wanting to reduce the use of force we also have a Restraint Reduction Plan.**
- **We review any force that has been used at our Governance Meetings so we can learn from what has happened and improve what we do.**
- **If we feel we ever have to use force, it will be included in your Care Plan and agreed with you. Force will only be used to keep you and others safe or to ensure you can receive treatment.**
- **We will discuss how force may be used in Community Meetings and also at Multi-Disciplinary Meetings and at your reviews.**

- We will share when any force has been used with your circle of support but only when this has been discussed with you and you give us permission.
- When people are admitted to our Service we will provide them with the Easy Read Guidance, this document and also our Restraint Reduction Plan.
- If we ever use force and you are not happy with how this has been done, you can raise a formal complaint, which will be investigated and you will get a formal response from Dr Steve Wilkinson, our Responsible Person.
- We have independent advocacy at Malsis Hall which is provided by Cloverleaf Advocacy. They can support you around the use of any force or if you want to make a complaint.
- All staff at Malsis Hall receive training in relation to the use of force and primarily this focuses on not having to use force or physical intervention. It is only used as a last resort to keep people safe.
- The training ensures everyone is respected and treated equally regardless of their background or differences.
- It also shows how the use of force can affect someone's mental health and can relate to negative things that have happened in the past.
- We will always record every time that force is used, including why, what type of force and if it was in your Care Plan.
- Senior staff will review where any force has been used and may investigate if anyone is injured or whether it should have been used in the first place.
- In relation to our training, we use CPI Safety Intervention which is accredited with the Restraint Reduction Network.
- Malsis Hall is also accredited with BILD Act which means we comply with their rules around delivering this training.
- We only use the following physical intervention and do not use prone restraint (holding people on the floor) unless in exceptional circumstances;
 - Low, medium, and high level seated holds.
 - Low, medium, and high level standing holds.
 - A transition to the floor would only be considered in the event of an emergency response.