



Independent Mental Health Advocacy

WHO CAN ACCESS AN IMHA

Individuals detained under the **Mental Health Act 1983**:

Section 2 or Section 3

Conditionally discharged restricted patient

Individual subject to Guardianship under the Act

Individual receiving Supervised Community Treatment (SCT)/ Community Treatment Order (CTO)

Individual being considered for a treatment to which section 57 applies

A young person under 18 and being considered for electro-convulsive therapy or any other treatment to which section 58A applies

The IMHA role as a safeguard and how they can help service users:

Understand information such as what section they are under

Understand their rights and ensure they are upheld. Including, how to appeal their section

Raise concerns or complaints

Prepare for and attend meetings with professionals

Gather the individual's views and wishes



WARDS

Sandalwood Court: Applewood ward (Acute) & Windswept ward (Rehabilitation)

Marlborough House: CAMHS Inpatient Unit is a CAMHS run by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Victoria Centre: Hodson Ward (Acute for older patients) & Liddington Ward (acute for dementia patients).

GWH: Great Western Hospital (usually those under section who are physically poorly and need treatment at a general hospital).

Avalon Centre: a private (Elysium Healthcare) neurological facility located in Swindon, catering for men and women over the age of 18 from all over the country who have an Acquired Brain Injury.



INFORMAL

Under the current Mental Health legislation those not detained (informal) patients are not eligible for an IMHA, even children and young people.

We hope that this changes with the proposed reforms

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mental-health-bill-2025>

In the meantime, we provide a drop in at Marlborough House to ensure that all children and young people who are subject to restrictions whilst they are treated as an inpatient have access to their rights via an advocate.



<https://www.swindonadvocacy.org.uk/contact/>



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