



Response Date:26/11/2025

2025/1215 - Street Triage scheme

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Street Triage refers to a service where police officers work in collaboration with mental health professionals (e.g., NHS staff or crisis teams) to respond to incidents involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Does your police force operate a Street Triage scheme as defined above?
(Yes/No)**

**If yes, does the Street Triage scheme cover the entire geographic area of your force?
Please provide the number of Street Triage incidents for each year as follows: 2021;
2022; 2023; 2024.**

If data is unavailable for any of these years, kindly indicate this accordingly.

We do not operate Street Triage.

Is Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training mandatory for frontline officers in your force?

No

If not, what mental health training is currently provided to frontline officers instead of (or in addition to) MHFA?

Please include:

The name or type of training

Whether it is mandatory or optional

Learning outcomes for the Mental health lesson delivered during initial training:

By the end of this session, student officers will be able to:

1. Explain the purpose and scope of key Mental Health Act sections relevant to policing:

- s2 – admission for assessment (up to 28 days)
- s3 – admission for treatment (up to 6 months, renewable)
- s4 – emergency admission for assessment (up to 72 hours, single doctor)
- s18 – power to return a patient absent without leave (AWOL)
- s135(1) – magistrate's warrant to enter premises and remove a person to a place of safety
- s135(2) – warrant to enter and detain a patient already liable to be detained
- s136 – power for police to remove a person from a public place to a place of safety

2. Differentiate between these sections in terms of:

- Who authorises the detention
- Where the powers can be exercised
- Maximum detention periods
- The role of police vs. health and social care professionals

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Practical Application

3. Identify the definition of a “place of safety” and apply it to real policing situations.
4. Outline the time limits and safeguards attached to each section and the legal responsibilities of police.
5. Apply the principles of necessity, proportionality, and least restrictive option when using MHA powers.
6. Recognise when to seek support from Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs), doctors, and healthcare staff.
7. Describe the role of police in transporting, safeguarding, and (where necessary) returning detained patients under s18.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 25/11/2025