

EASY READ

The care and treatment of Mr S

Case study

Mr S is a man who was told he had a mild learning disability.

He lived in hospital until he was 29. He later moved to a house in the community.

Mr S had a friend who he went to the supermarket with.

The friend died and Mr S started to get into trouble when he went to the supermarket.

Mr S would shout and swear at staff and customers in the supermarket. He also was reported to have touched a woman in a way he should not have.

Because of how Mr S acted he was reported to the police 130 times in 1 year.

Mr S was taken to prison in June 2011.

The judge in charge of Mr S's case phoned the Commission for advice.

He had to send Mr S to prison to keep him and other people safe.

The judge was not happy that Mr S was in prison. He thought that he needed care by health or social work services.

After the judge phoned us we took action straight away.

After we got involved Mr S was taken to hospital as quickly as possible.

This meant he got the care and treatment he needed. This resulted in good care.

They found that Mr S did not understand that what he had been doing was wrong. He got better help and support after this.

Mr S was given a new house in a different area.

He now has a good quality of life.

Mr S has not been in trouble with the police again.

We were not happy that the services that worked with Mr S knew he would get in trouble but could not agree on how to stop this happening.

This meant Mr S and other people were at risk.

We thought that Mr S should never have been sent to prison.

We asked the health board and the local authority to look at what went wrong and make sure it did not happen again.

They made sure that staff would work better together in future.

About the Mental Welfare Commission

We aim to make sure that:

- everyone's care, treatment and support is within the law
- the care and treatment you get respects your rights
- care and treatment supports the welfare of people with mental illness and/or a learning disability.

We do this by:

- supporting people and their carers
- giving advice and information to people who offer services
- giving advice and information to the people who make the rules.

Why do we do this?

People might be at risk because they are not able to look out for their own interests.

Someone else might have to decide they need care and treatment.

We make sure this is allowed by law and is the right thing to do when this happens.

Who are we?

We are an independent organisation set up by the Government.

Our organisation is made up of experienced health and social care staff, service users and carers.

What do we stand for?

We think that people with mental illness and/or a learning disability should have the same rights and respect as anyone else.

They have the right:

- to be treated with dignity and respect
- to have treatment that is allowed by law and is the right thing for them
- not to be abused, neglected or discriminated against
- to have care and treatment that is best for their needs
- to get well and have as full a life as possible.

What do we do?

We work to get a good balance between a person's rights, the law and the care they get.

We work across all areas of health and social care.

We find out if a person's care and treatment is allowed by the law.

We ask service providers to give the very best mental health and learning disability care they can.

We follow up on individual cases where we think something is wrong. We would look into the case and may investigate further if we think we need to.

We give information and advice to people, carers and service providers.

We help to develop services and we help to make new laws about them.

We help service providers to understand what the mental health and incapacity law says about people's care and treatment.

How to contact the Commission

If you have any questions or would like information in another language or format, please get in touch with us.

Our contact details are:



**Mental Welfare Commission for
Scotland**

**Thistle House
91 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HE**



**Service user and carer freephone
0800 389 6809
Office 0131 313 8777**



www.mwcscot.org.uk

Your views

We want to know what you think about our service.

So if you have a complaint, a comment or a compliment, please ring us on 0800 389 6809.

We will listen to what you have to say and use it to help us improve our service in future.



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