

## QUALIFYING PATIENTS

The Mental Health Act 2007 sets out who can access an IMHA service, and refers to them as Qualifying Patients.

Qualifying Patients are those patients who are 18 and over and:

- Detained under the MHA (even if on Section 17 leave) **but not** those patients detained under emergency holding powers e.g. Sections 4, 5(2), 5(4), 135 or 136;
- Conditionally discharged restricted patients;
- Subject to Guardianship under the Act;
- On Supervised Community Treatment (SCT), also known as Community Treatment Orders (CTO).

As well as patients not covered by any of the above but who are:

- Being considered for a treatment to which Section 57 applies;
- Under 18 and being considered for electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) or any other treatment to which section 58A applies.

### Exclusions/Exceptions

IMHA services are commissioned by Local Authorities (LAs) and/or Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in their local borough. The (potential) client must therefore be the responsibility of that particular PCT and be registered with a GP in the LA. This means if a patient is placed 'out of area', their IMHA service will be operated by the LA of their usual residence. If you are unsure of eligibility, then please contact us.


## WHO ARE MATRIX SD&T Ltd?

Matrix Service Development & Training is a not for profit company limited by guarantee.

Matrix provides generic advocacy services for adults/older people with mental health problems, learning disabilities, drug issues, or those lacking capacity (Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy, IMCA). A range of training courses and publications are provided by our sister organisation, Matrix Training Associates. [www.matrixsdandt.com](http://www.matrixsdandt.com)  
[www.matrixtrainingassociates.com](http://www.matrixtrainingassociates.com)

## CONTACT DETAILS

Donna Moffatt - IMHA (West Surrey)

 07931 522 120

 [imhasurrey@matrixsdandt.com](mailto:imhasurrey@matrixsdandt.com)  
[www.matrixsdandt.com](http://www.matrixsdandt.com)

 Matrix (IMHA), [address as below]

### Comments and Complaints

We welcome comments or complaints that allow us to improve the IMHA service.

Please contact in writing:

Mr Ian Grimwood  
Director  
Matrix SD&T

2 The Green, North Waltham  
Hampshire. RG25 2BQ



Working in partnership with  
PCT, Social Services, NHS  
and Local Authorities

# MATRIX



# INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY IMHA SERVICE





## WHAT IS AN IMHA?

An Independent Mental Health Advocate is a new type of statutory mental health advocate created by the Mental Health Act 2007. They must undergo specialist training and achieve a National Advocacy Qualification. In addition they have some statutory powers.

## SELF-REFERRAL

If you are the person seeking advocacy support, then just call our number or ask a member of staff to contact us on your behalf.

## OTHER REFERRALS

Download the referral form from our website. Contact us by telephone or email if you wish to check eligibility. Please ensure you have the client's permission.

## THE SERVICE IS...

- A Legal Right (for Qualifying patients)
- For Individuals
- Independent
- Confidential
- Impartial
- Free

## WHO IS THE SERVICE FOR?

Generally, for anyone over 18 and subject to powers under the Mental Health Act 1983 (amended). The Act refers to those eligible as Qualifying patients. (Please see the reverse of this leaflet for a detailed list of exactly who can access the service)

**ADVOCACY is about placing the client at the heart of the decision making process by ensuring that they are informed of their rights and supported so that their voice is heard about decisions that affect their lives.**

## EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE DO?

- Explaining your rights under the Act
- Support/preparation for meetings e.g. Ward Rounds, Care Programme Approach (CPA), Tribunals, Managers Appeals, etc
- Referral to specialist organisations e.g. MH solicitors
- Helping to make complaints
- Information about services
- Accessing medical records

## CHOICES

An IMHA will talk to you about the choices you have, and the possible consequences of those choices, so that you can make an informed decision.

## RIGHTS

An IMHA will ensure you know your rights under the Act, and how to exercise them.

## SUPPORT

An IMHA will support you to speak up for yourself whenever possible, and assist you to access other specialist services if appropriate.

## DECISIONS ARE YOURS

The final decision will always be yours – an IMHA can only assist in helping you come to a decision you are happy with.

## NON-JUDGEMENTAL

The IMHA will not make judgements about decisions made by you unless the decision compromises the integrity of the advocacy service.

## CONFIDENTIAL

Information will not be shared with anyone outside of Matrix unless you give your permission. (This may be broken in exceptional circumstances – please ask to see our policy)