

SCHEDULE 1 - Introduction & Aims and Objectives



Document	BHCC SPFT S75 Introduction & Aims and Objectives
Audience	BHCC SPFT Management
Date Agreed	June 2025
Review Date	October 2026

1. Aims and Objectives

A Section 75 (S.75) agreement is made between local authorities and NHS bodies and can include arrangements for pooling resources and delegating certain NHS and local authority health-related functions to the other partners.

Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) represent one of the most significant structural reforms to the NHS in the past decade. With their aim of unifying health strategy across once fragmented regional health bodies, they hope to improve the efficiency, quality and delivery of healthcare services

The S75 agreement will continue to serve as a significant tool in achieving the ICS ambition to transform adults and older adults' community mental health services and reduce health inequalities.

This agreement will contribute to improvement in mental health and wellbeing and should result in easier access to a more responsive mental health service, in line with the strategic intent of other initiatives such as the Brighton & Hove Joint Health & Well Being Strategy and the Sussex Health & Care Partnership Shared Delivery Plan.

The S.75 agreement between Brighton and Hove City Council (Council) and Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust (Trust) has been in place for over twenty three years and has meant several Social Care staff have been co-located within the Trust to deliver statutory duties. This way of working in close partnership has been valued by both organisations, and by those that use our services, and the review of this agreement seeks to maintain and strengthen this collaborative way of working. The agreement demonstrates the ongoing commitment of the Trust & the Council to work in partnership, to deliver an integrated service for the population of Brighton & Hove.

Within the S.75 agreement there are a number of schedules underpinning the operational aspects of the joint working arrangements, within the overall statutory requirements of S.75 of the National Health Service Act 2006.

The previous review and re-launch in 2022 in relation to the agreement between the Trust & the Council resulted in some significant changes to the s75 arrangements:

- The need to strengthen Continuing Professional Development and professional support mechanisms and improve professional leadership for Social Work and Assessment in Adult Social Care.
- Promote and embed social interventions and provide role clarity for social work and clinical work within Community Mental Health Services.
- Develop leadership capacity within the Approved Mental Health Professional Service.
- Develop integrated workforce planning across Health & Social Care Mental Health Services.

These schedules will help inform our continuing journey of transformation of the integrated service over the next three years in the development and full implementation of Neighbourhood Mental Health Teams (NMHTs), and to ensure that those using our services receive a seamless Health and Adult Social Care service within secondary Mental Health Services.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the to this Agreement are:

2.1 Service Delivery

- Improve access to services and secure better outcomes for service users through a jointly delivered service model.
- Avoid inefficient use of resources arising from unnecessary duplication and organisational boundaries.
- Provide an integrated, responsive, and timely approach to the assessment, treatment and care for service services reflective of their mental health and social care needs.
- Promote a service that is focused on recovery, independence, individual need, and outcomes.
- Provide a seamless interface for users and carers.
- Provide appropriate support, advice and services in accordance with assessed need.

2.2 Statutory Functions & Performance

- Deliver an integrated service that is compliant in its delivery of statutory duties to service users and their carers.
- Provide sufficient availability of all staff to ensure delivery of key functions and statutory duties, including Approved Mental Health Professionals.
- Establish robust pathways for the allocation of social care work.
- Ensure the Council performance reports and budget responsibility are given equal priority to the Trust's performance targets.
- Ensure the Council's Director of Adult Social Services' statutory duties are discharged in accordance with the Department of Health's Guidance on the statutory chief officer post of the Director of Adult Social Services and any applicable national directives.
- Fulfil national and local policy objectives.

2.3 Management of Council Staff

- Ensure all local managers within the Trust are fully conversant with the statutory duties their team and Council employed staff are responsible for providing.
- Ensure Trust managers have sufficient systems in place to monitor the caseloads of Council employed staff, enabling staff to prioritise the statutory functions aligned with their role and contracted duties.

2.4 Estates and Facilities

- Ensure the staff working within the Services are provided with the necessary equipment enabling them to work within the systems of both organisations.
- Ensure that Council staff are accommodated within Trust sites where the Services are located.

3. Schedules

3.1 The following schedules have been developed:

Schedule 1 - Introduction & Aims and Objectives

Schedule 2 – Local Performance Indicators

Schedule 3 – Premises and Support Services

Schedule 4 – Joint Management Group

Schedule 5 – Financial Contributions

Schedule 6 – Staff Posts Allocated to the Arrangements

Schedule 7 - Joint Management of s75 staff

Schedule 8 – Joint HR Protocol for the Management of s75 staff

Schedule 9 – Joint Management of Change and Redundancy Policy for s75 staff

Schedule 10 – Safe & Effective Practice

Schedule 11 – Joint Operational Group

4. The execution of a new S75 Agreement will mark the start of the next stage of transformation through continual improvement of outcomes for local service users. We will work with them, experts by experience, staff, and other stakeholders in an open inclusive way, constantly monitoring progress as we transform local service delivery.

