

The Manchester Fire and Mental Health Liaison Project

Key people involved in the project



Paula Breeze

Occupational Therapist: Fire and Mental Health Liaison Officer
(MMHSCT & GMFRS)

David Marsden

Head of Occupational Therapy.
Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust (MMHSCT)

Warren Pickstone

Area Commander.
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS)

Background to the project

Over 1/3 people killed in fire in Manchester known to mental health services

Partnership

Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service



Key elements of The Fire and Mental Health Liaison project

Joint funded

Occupational Therapist

Access to both systems

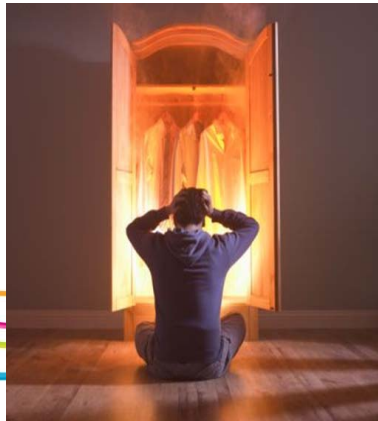
Link between the two organisations

Innovation



Project Aims:-

- Improve safety
- Home fire safety checks for high risk people
- Mental health awareness within GMFRS
- Fire safety awareness within MMHSCT



Why an Occupational Therapist?

Need a holistic approach to fire safety that includes:

Person

Environment

Occupation



Fire and mental health link?

What is the link between fire and mental health?
Our service users are more at risk of fire if they...

Abilities

- Are forgetful
- Are disorganised
- Lost skills

Occupations

- Have chaotic lifestyles
 - Hoard things
 - Drink alcohol
 - Use substances
 - Take medication
 - Smoke



Roles & Routines

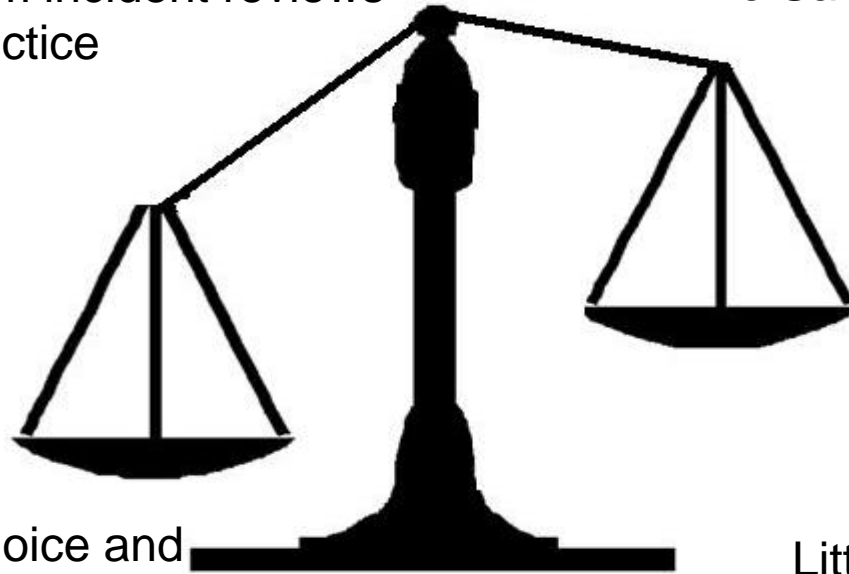
Need for partnership working?

MMHSCT specialist skills

Learning points from incident reviews

Person centred practice

Fire Safety



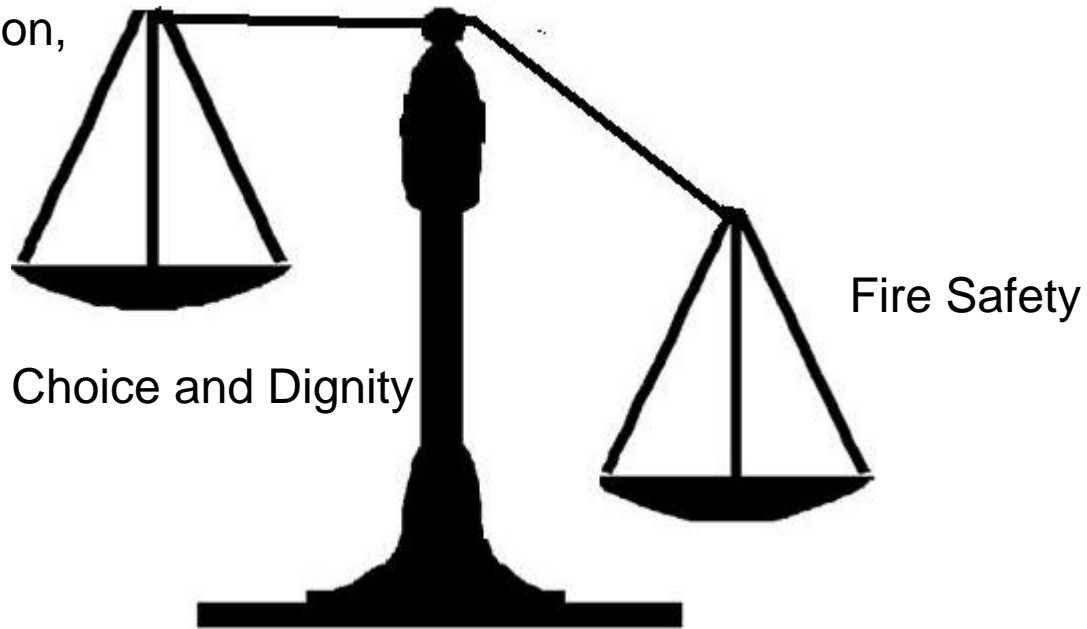
Choice and
Dignity

Little fire safety
awareness
Gaps in risk
assessment



Need for partnership working?

GMFRS good at fire risk and fire safety
Free home fire safety checks
Prevention, protection,
response



Difficulty accessing 'hard to reach'
Little understanding of mental health
Risk driven not person centred

Barriers faced by the fire service

Gaining access

Uniform/fire engine

Focused on environment

Communication difficulties

Difficult to engage

Low mood/apathy/anxiety/paranoia/hallucinations

Lack of knowledge & skills

No where to pass on risk information and concerns

Lack of time

Monitoring fire risk



What does the Fire and Mental Health Liaison Officer do?

Referrals from GMFRS

Referrals from MMHSCT

Coordination of joint home fire safety checks

Documentation of assessments, intervention and fire risk

Specialist OT assessments



Case study - Mr X

79 year old gentleman, living alone



Risk Assessment

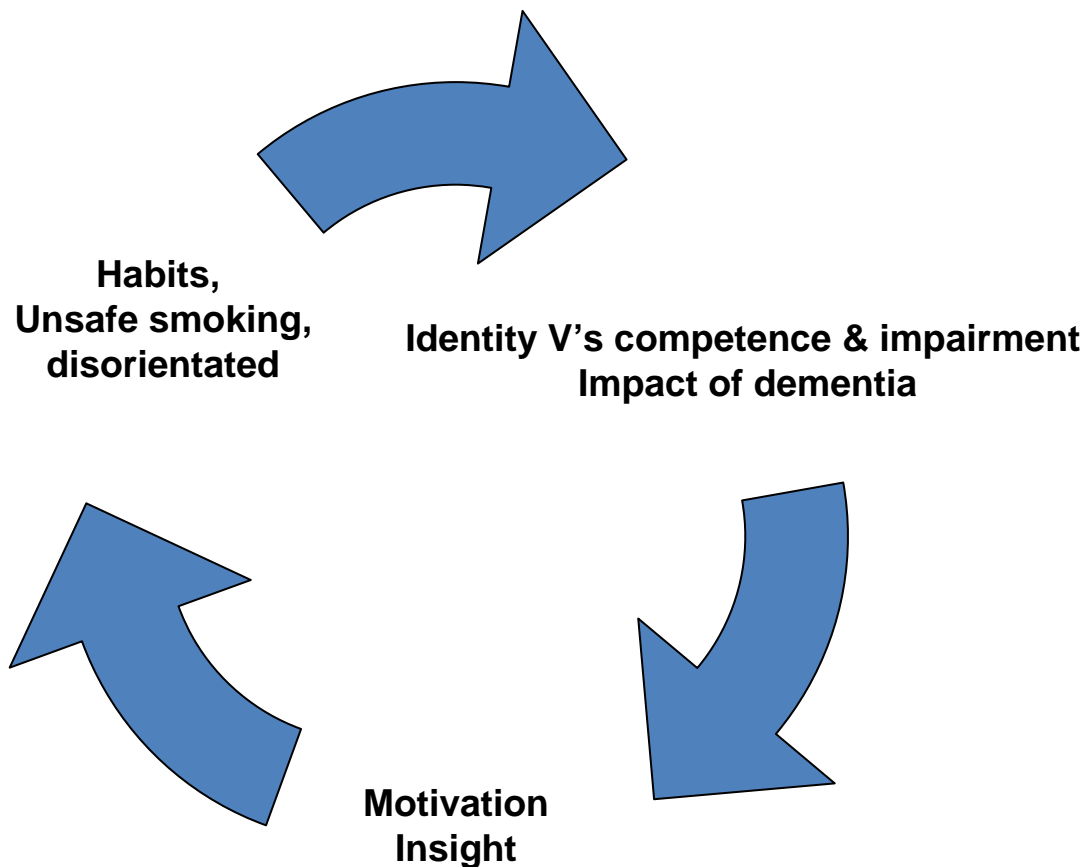
Consequence	Likelihood				
	1	2	3	4	5
	Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain
5 Catastrophic	5	10	15	20	25
4 Major	4	8	12	16	20
3 Moderate	3	6	9	12	15
2 Minor	2	4	6	8	10
1 Negligible	1	2	3	4	5

For grading risk, the scores obtained from the risk matrix are assigned grades as follows:

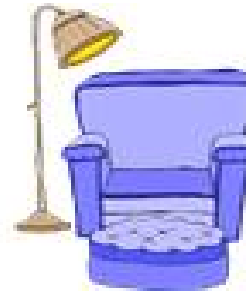
■ 1–3	Low risk
■ 4–6	Moderate risk
■ 8–12	High risk
■ 15–25	Extreme risk



Occupational therapy assessment and formulation



Occupational therapy intervention



The outcomes of our work?

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Project outcomes

- Referral process and pathway
- Sharing information protocol
- 500 + referrals
- Joint fire safety interventions
- Mental health awareness for over 250 fire service personnel
- Fire safety awareness training for MH staff



Why does it work?

Joint funding

Senior level commitment

Information sharing

Occupational Therapist

Access to systems in both organisations

Transferable to other settings



Creating capable teams

Partnership agreements

Reciprocal training

What assessment's/interventions can you deliver?

Fire safety champions

Referral pathways

Data sharing protocols

Monitoring & evaluation



Latest update.....

Health and Social Care Services Coordinator

Central support for all of GMFRS

Vulnerable person's strategy

Vulnerable person's database

Partnership model and referral pathway

Continued joint work with MMH&SCT

Setting up partnerships

Stakeholder event

Contact details

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