



Liaison & Diversion Service
Wood Green Crown Court

Purpose of L&D?

- Supporting vulnerable people to participate in the Criminal Justice process
- Liaison with other teams including prison services
- Understanding decision-making processes
- Recording information directly on relevant systems
- Improving health outcomes
- Timely provision of information to justice agencies

Where are we based?

- MET Police custody suites – Wood Green, Islington, Holborn
- British Transport Police custody suite and national suicide prevention unit
- Marine suicide prevention unit (MPS)
- Highbury Corner Magistrates Court
- Wood Green Crown Court and Hendon Crown Court (start date 01.04.2023)

Looking out for the vulnerable

- A widening of L&D practitioners assessment of vulnerabilities not just mental illness and learning disability
- Women
- Veterans
- Young people
- Homelessness
- Drug and alcohol problems

Assessment Process

- Meet with the service user and discuss their understanding of why they are in court and the court procedures
- If the defendant/service user understands the charges and the role of the solicitor and court, then will be deemed as able to understand, any concerns then L&D can recommend a report
- If defendant is deemed to not understand court processes and suspicion they are not fit to plead L&D recommend psychiatric report/or any supports such as an intermediary to allow the service user to engage with the court process
- If person is acutely unwell refer for mental health act assessment

How to refer

- We sit in the probation office on the 3rd floor. There will be a practitioner on site Monday to Friday, 9-5pm.
- Team email address - beh-tr.woodgreen-court-diversion@nhs.net
- Please include what concerns have been raised, and what you wish to gain from L and D involvement. L and D team do not have access to DCS and so require the name, date of birth and any other relevant information or papers on the individual.