

Community Mental Health Teams and the response to missing patients



Up to 4 in 5 missing people
have a mental health problem

Missing People sent a Freedom
of Information Request to 57
Mental Health Trusts.
46 responded.

The research led to 7 key recommendations...



1. CMHTs should work with the police and follow the UK Missing Persons Bureau's guidance on protecting vulnerable adults missing from care



2. Mental Health Trusts should introduce policies for responding to missing and returning community-based patients



**116
000**

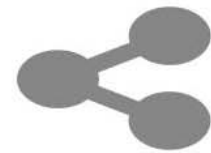
3. All CMHTs should signpost patients and their families to the charity Missing People



4. CMHTs should outline a route back into services before discharging any missing patient



5. All returned missing adults should be offered an independent return interview



6. CMHTs should share good practice on responding when a patient is missing

7. Further research into mental health and missing