

## ABOUT PATIENTS

The majority of patients have a primary diagnosis of schizophrenia and a quarter have another primary diagnosis. Significant numbers have a secondary diagnosis relating to substance abuse (drugs/alcohol) and personality disorder.

### Patients are admitted to the Hospital under the provisions of:

- The Criminal Procedures (Scotland) Act 1995.
- The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003.
- And other related legislation because of their dangerous, violent or criminal propensities.

Patients can be admitted from and discharged to other NHS hospitals, prisons, courts and the community. Patients spend on average around seven years in the State Hospital, ranging from around four weeks to over 40 years.

### Offences prior to admission include:

- |                               |                  |                       |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ Homicide/Attempted Homicide | ▪ Escape         | ▪ Absconding          |
| ▪ Armed robbery               | ▪ Self injury    | ▪ Assault with weapon |
| ▪ Attempted suicide           | ▪ Fire raising   | ▪ Drug abuse          |
| ▪ Indecent assault            | ▪ Hostage taking | ▪ Rape                |



### Key Messages

- One third of patients in the State Hospital have not committed an offence, however they will have engaged in violent behaviours.
- Patients in forensic services are more likely to have complex needs, including treatment resistant psychotic illness, disadvantaged socioeconomic background and comorbid substance abuse problems, compared with the patient population of general adult mental health services.
- They are also more likely to be living with the consequences of previous institutional care.
- Specialist treatments for specific offending behaviours are required to reduce the risk posed by patients to themselves and others.