The role of the Commissioner within the Mental Health Act

- Approve, monitor & review involuntary care
- Ensure patients are not kept in hospital longer than necessary
- Investigate cases of alleged breach of human rights & take appropriate action as necessary
- Ensure closure of care episodes
- Patients, carers, professionals and the public can contact the Office of the Commissioner
- To make complaints and queries regarding care, treatment and incidents on Mental Health issues.
- The Office can investigate complaints and carry out investigations as outlined by Mental Health Act 2012 (Cap 525 of the Laws of Malta)

This Office also serves as an advisory and reference point for
- Non-Governmental Organisations
- Policy Makers

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Note that this is only an outline. For full details one should consult the actual text and it is advisable to get legal interpretation.
Rights of Mental Healthcare Users & Carers

According to the Mental Health Act, 2012, CAP 525

The right to a safe and hygienic environment

The right to receive care and aftercare in the community as much as possible

The right to privacy

The right to receive adequate information about their disorder, treatment options and services available

The right to full respect of their dignity

The right to access clinical records so long as this is of no harm to self and others

The right to have a responsible carer of their choice

The right to confidentiality of all information

The right to exercise civil, political, economic, social, religious, educational and cultural rights amongst others

The right to receive quality treatment equal to others

The right to receive treatment in the least restrictive environment

The right to receive timely information in an understandable form

The right to confide in their nearby world given this is of no harm to self and others

The right to receive visitors provided it is of no harm to self and others

The right to receive quality treatment equal to others

The right to give free & informed consent before treatment

The right to receiving treatment through a multidisciplinary care approach

Note that this is only an outline. For full details one should consult the actual text and it is advisable to get legal interpretation.