

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

30 January 2018

Subject: Extension of Intermediate Care Bed Service contract for 2018-2019

Cabinet Member: Councillor Jerry Wickham, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Public Protection

Key Decision: Yes

Executive Summary

Wiltshire Council, in partnership with Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group commission 70 block Intermediate Care Nursing Beds. The Intermediate Care Bed Service is a joint health and social care service, with 70 beds commissioned in 9 care homes across Wiltshire. The Intermediate Care beds are funded via the Better Care Fund.

At any one time, there are a number of patients in acute beds, whose medical episode is complete, but who are unable to be safely discharged home, at that point in time. Intermediate care beds in care homes are used as a 'stepping stone' to enable customers to return home after a spell in an acute or community hospital (step down beds).

Intermediate Care also commissions 10 "step up beds", these are accessible by GPs to admit patients who do not require acute care, but are not safe to remain at home, for short term care. This also avoids the person being admitted to an acute hospital unnecessarily.

The Council and CCG are committed to minimising the number of customers making decisions about their long-term care needs in an acute setting, increasing the number able to remain living at home and reducing the total number of customers who are permanently admitted into care homes.

Intermediate Care block beds were re tendered last year for 2017-2018 for a year's contract with the potential to extend for a further year.

Proposal

Intermediate Care bed service first year's contract will expire on 31 March 2018; therefore, it is requested that Cabinet approves an extension of this contract for an additional year (2018-2019)

Reason for Proposal(s)

For the request of the extension of the current contracts we would be advising that 70 beds are continued with, but that within the next year there will be a review to determine the total beds required for the following year.

The plan would be to reduce the number of beds over time, to consider the impact of Adult Care Transformation in reducing the bed base demand.

Graham Wilkin, Interim Director of Adult Care

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Key Decision: Yes

Purpose of Report

1. This paper requests that, an extension to the Intermediate Care bed service contract is agreed for a further year

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The Wiltshire Council Business Plan 2017-2027 makes a commitment to minimising the number of people able to remain living at home and reducing the total number of people who are permanently admitted to a care home.

Background

3. Wiltshire Council, in partnership with Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group commission 70 block Intermediate Care Nursing beds. Intermediate Care is a joint health and social care service. The Council commission the Intermediate Care beds that are funded via the Better Care Fund.
4. At any one time, there are a number of patients in acute beds, whose medical episode is complete, but who are unable to manage without support at home or in a care home. Intermediate care beds in care homes are used as a 'stepping stone' for customers to return home after a spell in an acute or community hospital (step down beds).
5. Intermediate Care also commissions 10 "step up beds", these are accessible by GPs to admit patients who do not require acute care, but are not safe to remain at home, for short term care. This also avoids the person being admitted to an acute setting unnecessarily.

6. The Council and CCG are committed to minimising the number of customers making decisions about their long-term care needs in an acute setting, increasing the number able to remain living at home and reducing the total number of customers who are permanently admitted into care homes.

Main Considerations for the Council

7. For the council to approve the extension of the Intermediate Care bed service contract, to enable continued support of people being discharged to an appropriate service and to support timely discharges from Acute hospitals.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

8. Intermediate Care, and bed provision, was an area of focus for the Better Care Plan task group and remains an area of interest for the Health Select Committee, who will continue overseeing developments on this topic following Cabinet's decision.

Safeguarding Implications

9. There are no known safeguarding implications.

Public Health Implications

10. If the extension of the Intermediate Care bed service contract is approved, there will be continued positive outcomes for service user health and wellbeing, the aim of the service is to improve service user's independence to enable them to return home, whenever possible.
11. If the extension of the Intermediate Care bed service contract is not approved, there will be negative implications for service users and the Acute hospitals. For the service user, there will be unnecessary extended acute hospital stays, as the service user will not be safe to return home and rehabilitation will have to continue within the acute setting, which there is limited ability to do this. Extended stays in hospital lead to the service user experiencing a reduction in independence and requiring increased support on discharge or long-term placement.

Procurement Implications

12. There are not any procurement implications. The contracts were let in 2017 following a compliant procurement process. There is facility within the contract for the extension for one year and this was clear in the tender opportunity.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal (detailing conclusions identified from Equality Analysis, sections 4 and 5)

13. An equalities impact assessment was carried out in conjunction with the Nursing home block bed tender in 2016.
14. The procurement of nursing/residential home beds through block contracts and framework agreements by the Council will support equitable access to 24hr care in a care home setting for people who do not have the financial means to secure this care themselves.
15. The specification for the service states that providers will be expected to demonstrate use of local resources and provision of services which take account of customer's religion and culture.
16. The procurement process ensures that organisations entering into a contract with the Council must have their own policies and procedures in place to comply with the Equality Act 2010.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

17. There are no specific environmental or climate change considerations.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

18. If cabinet were not to approve the extension of this contract, the negative impact will be that those people who would make use of this service will remain within the acute hospital setting for extended periods of time. Increasing the length of stay and increasing the numbers of delayed transfers of care number. Resulting in reduced flow and the ability to admit new service users, with the outcome of increased episodes of escalation

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

19. There may be a perceived risk that renewing the contract removes some impetus to progress with transformation. Decreasing the number of Intermediate Care beds is written within the providers contract, it has always been the plan to reduce the number of beds when the community has capacity

to support this cohort of customers in their home environment. Wiltshire Council is fully committed to Adult Care Transformation.

Financial Implications

20. Intermediate Care bed service is funded via the Better Care Fund.

21. Beds currently commissioned are:

Care Home	step up	number of beds
	step down	
NEW		
Avon Court Chippenham	down	5
Bassett House	down	5
Athelstan	down WC	5
	down CCG	5
Total for NEW		15
WWYKD		
The Westbury	down	8
Market Lavington	down	7
Total for WWYKD		15
SARUM		
Camelot, Amesbury	down	5
Little Manor, Salisbury	down	14
Castle View	down	
Ashley Grange	down	6
SARUM step down		25
SARUM step up		
Ashley Grange	up	2
Kimberley House	up	8
SARUM step up		10
Total for SARUM		35
Total for Wiltshire		70

Full year cost of the 70 block Intermediate Care beds is £2,988,156.29, due to the confidential nature of the detailed financial information, please see appendix one for the detailed financial information.

22. There will be no uplift cost for 2018 – 2019 as the contract states that any extended year will be at the same cost as 2017-2018.

Legal Implications

23. Local authorities must meet their duty of care to identify, to assess and support people. Working with other local organisations to provide the most appropriate form of value for money support.

Options Considered

24. One option would be to reduce the number of beds required. This option was discounted on the basis that the current block of 70 beds is well-used (see occupancy rates below) and is often supplemented by additional beds purchased on an 'as required' basis to support service users with very specialist needs.

25. Occupancy rates April 2017-November 2017

month	Step down %	Step up %
November	93	91
October	94	89
September	89	95
August	93	96
July	93	89
June	90	89
May	96	96
April	91	100

26. Conclusions

Cabinet is requested to approve the extension of the Intermediate Care bed service contract for a further year, 2018-2019. This will continue to support the Acute Hospitals, while enabling Transformation to progress and review the number of Intermediate Care beds required post 2019.

Graham Wilkin, Interim Director of Adult Care

Report Author: Deborah Elliott, Community Commissioner (Intermediate Care Bed Service),

20 December 2017

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Block Beds Costs

Background Papers

The following documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

None