

Report of the Transfer to Care (TtoC) Task Group

Purpose of report

1. To present the recommendations of the TtoC Task Group and seek endorsement for them.

Background

2. The Health Select Committee (HSC) held a workshop in October 2012 to bring together partners from health and social care and also to assist them in identifying topics for the HSC work programme. Transfers to Care was identified as a key theme.
3. At its meeting on 15 November 2012, the HSC agreed to establish a Task Group on Transfer to Care, and this was endorsed by the Overview and Management Committee on 13 December 2012.
4. The Task Group met on 14 February 2013 with the following membership:

Cllr Nigel Carter
Cllr Peter Hutton
Cllr Pip Ridout
Mr Brian Warwick
5. The Task Group received evidence from Alison Alsbury, Interim Director of Community Transformation, CCG and Sue Geary, Head of Performance, Health and Workforce.
6. The Task Group considered a document entitled 'Help to Live at Home – transformation of adult health and social care in Wiltshire'.

Summary of information

7. Alison Alsbury has been appointed as the Interim Director of Community Transformation, CCG; a post funded equally by Wiltshire Council, Great Western Hospital and the CCG. Transfers to care has been recognised as a priority area of work.
8. Workshops were held in January 2013 to consider the flow of patients through the system and to identify areas which need to be addressed. Some good work already existed eg Help to Live at Home, but more collaborative work was required.
9. To facilitate rapid improvement, any proposed changes would be made within current arrangements; at this stage contracts are not being looked at. Under current contracts, transfers to care are the responsibility of the acute hospitals.

10. It is acknowledged that each of the hospitals serving Wiltshire residents has different issues, but the expectation is for common plans and assessments across the county.
11. It is acknowledged that clear data is required and work was already underway to devise a dashboard report across the whole system and to improve data sharing.
12. A one-off project was being undertaken at the Royal United Hospital (RUH) which will run for 4 – 6 weeks. The aim is to track a number of patients and identify any problems or hold-ups; staff involved will have the resources and authority to resolve the problems that arise. The first data from the project will identify any problems and the results/learning from this project will inform future actions.
13. The Task Group was pleased to note the progress being made on this topic and welcomed the joint working taking place.
14. The breadth of the topic of the CCG is such that the Task Group felt that it could not agree Terms of Reference for a new Task Group and it is suggested that the new Task Group should devise its own Terms of Reference.

Recommendations

The Task Group recommends that:

- 1. The Health Select Committee, within the newly-elected Wiltshire Council, should establish a TtoC Task Group to undertake the recommendations below.**
- 2. The Task Group should devise its own Terms of Reference.**
- 3. The Task Group meets at the earliest opportunity.**
- 4. The Task Group should review the proposed protocol and policy documents produced by the Partnership Group.**
- 5. The Task Group should review the results of the project being undertaken at the RUH. In addition, it should consider the identified reasons for delays, with a view to asking the Health Select Committee to establish a further Task Group to investigate specific causes of delay.**
- 6. The Task Group considers the financial aspects in this area and the challenges they impose on decision making.**

Transfers to Care Task Group

Report Author: Maggie McDonald, Senior Scrutiny Officer
01225 713679 maggie.mcdonald@wiltshire.gov.uk