

Report



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| meeting | SOCIAL SERVICES STANDING SELECT COMMITTEE | |
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

REIMBURSEMENTS AND DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE JANUARY – APRIL 2004

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Social Services Standing Select Committee of the Council's performance in relation to delayed transfers of care for Nottinghamshire residents since the implementation of the Community Care (Delayed Discharges etc.) Act in January 2004.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 Attached is a report that was considered at Cabinet on 26th May 2004. The report outlines the overall performance for the County since the full introduction of the reimbursement legislation in January 2004 that has exceeded expectations in the north of the county.

- 2.2 The following is an explanation of the differences between interim care and intermediate care.

2.2.1 Interim Care

Interim Care is care in a residential or nursing bed (Local Authority or Independent Sector) which is offered to a hospital patient who is fit and safe for discharge from his/her acute hospital bed *but* the placement/care package to support his/her long term care is not immediately available.

- 2.2.2 In practice, interim care is likely to be required where:

- a) the patient/service user has a very clear need for care that can only be provided in a *care home* and consequently, no further assessment is needed, and
- b) the patient/service user has not yet chosen the home that s/he wishes to go to or has chosen the home, but is waiting for a vacancy.

OR

- a) the patient/service user can return home but only with the support of a *home care* package, and
- b) there is no home care service at the level required immediately available

2.2.3 While there is no time limit that applies to interim care, by its very nature it is anticipated that interim care will only be provided for a matter of weeks, rather than months. (See s.5, below). It will be free of charge for the first 4 weeks and it is expected that the person will have moved on from the bed within that time.

2.3 Intermediate Care

2.3.1 Local Authority Circular LAC (2001) 1 describes intermediate care as services that meet all of the following criteria:

- a. are targeted at people who would otherwise face unnecessarily prolonged hospital stays or inappropriate admission to acute in-patient, long term residential care or continuing NHS in-patient care;
- b. are provided on the basis of a comprehensive assessment, resulting in a structured individual care plan that involves active therapy, treatment or opportunity for recovery;
- c. have a planned outcome of maximising independence and typically enabling patient/users to resume living at home;
- d. are time-limited, normally no longer than six weeks and frequently as little as 1-2 weeks or less; and
- e. involve cross-professional working, with a single assessment framework, single professional records and shared protocols

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that Members note the attached Cabinet report.

STUART BROOK
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES