

3rd February 2014**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****PLANNING CARE OF OLDER PEOPLE AFTER A PLANNED OPERATION****Purpose of the Report**

1. To propose an additional temporary Community Care Officer Post one day per week (7.4 hours) to support a pilot project in Health called Systematic Care Of Older peoples Elective Surgery (SCOPES). This post will be fully funded by Health for the duration of the six month pilot.

Information and Advice

2. SCOPES is a project for older people which identifies patients who have social care needs and completes pre-admissions assessments for people who will require social care support following pre-elective surgery. Pre-elective surgery is surgery which is pre planned and not as a result of a medical emergency. The project started 12 months ago with patients waiting cardiac surgery or hips and knees replacements. Following the success of this project the pre-admissions assessments will be extended to some patients who have cancer treatments such as breast cancer.
3. The objective of the project is to improve outcomes for the patient following discharge from Hospital through a joined up approach across health and social care. A planned discharge plan before admission provides reassurance to the patient and their family that their social care needs will be met or if they are a carer, that the cared for person will be supported. It also enables a proportionate assessment of need and avoids the need for an assessment by a hospital social worker on the ward. This enables people to have a timely and appropriate discharge from hospital and reduces delayed transfers of care.
4. If agreed the temporary Community Care Officer post will be based at the Adult Access Service within the Customer Service Centre.
5. The Community Care Officer will be the point of contact for health staff requesting a social care assessment for a patient who will have a planned admission. Based on the assessment, the Community Care Officer will pre-book the support required, which could include a period of reablement or a period of respite if the patient is a main carer.

6. At the six month point the pilot will be reviewed to ascertain whether it has been successful and whether it can be extended to other areas.

Other Options Considered

7. The other option would be for health to identify a worker to undertake this work. However this is discounted as the worker would not have access to commission social care services.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. The establishment of a temporary Community Care Officer Post (7.4 hours) will enable proportionate assessment to be completed and arrange timely discharge from hospital with improved outcomes for service users and carers living in the County. This will also reduce referral numbers to Hospital and District teams. This post will be funded by health.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

10. Outcomes will be improved as people will have arrangements in place for their discharge before their admission.

Ways of Working Implications

11. The post will be based with the Adult Access Service at Mercury House and will be accommodated within existing office space, making use of flexible work arrangements.

Financial Implications

12. The total cost will be recouped from the Strategy and Implementation Group for Nottingham South (SIGNS).

Human Resources Implications

13. This report proposes to establish the following post:

- 1 7.4 hours a week Community Care Officer, Grade 5 - SCP 24-28 and approved car user status.

14. An existing Community Care Officer will be transferred to undertake this work.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the Adult Social Care and Health Committee approve:

- 1) A Community Care Officer Post, 1 Full Day (7.4 hours) SCP 24-28 (£21,067-£22,443 per annum) with approved car user status. The total cost for this post will be recouped back from Health.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 24.01.14)

15. The Adult Social Care and Health Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (KAS 24/01/14)

16. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 12 of the report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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