

27 March 2017

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DISCHARGE ISSUES

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide information on the work being undertaken to prevent unsafe discharge.

Information and Advice

2. Dawn Atkinson, Head of Business Change and Implementation at Mansfield and Ashfield CCG will attend the Health Scrutiny Committee to brief Members on the latest measures to counter unsafe discharge.
3. Nationally, complaints about hospital discharge are rising according to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman. Serious discharge difficulties that some patients face include being discharged too early, and not being assessed or consulted properly beforehand. In evidence to the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, the Carers Trust emphasised the importance of hospitals recognising the value of carers and relatives by actively involving and consulting them before discharging patients. Carers UK have stated that carers are often experts in the care needs of the people they support and so including them in the discharge process is of benefit to both the patient and healthcare staff. It is also important for the carer that they are consulted, since they will often be directly affected by decisions made as part of the discharge process.
4. A briefing from Mansfield and Ashfield CCG is attached as an appendix to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Receives the briefing on discharge issues and asks questions, as necessary
- 2) Indicates requirements for further information, as required

**Councillor Colleen Harwood
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 977 2826

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All