

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2013/14**

**COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

5TH NOVEMBER 2013

**REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Agenda Item 3

**COMMUNITY AND HOSPITAL
INTERFACE AND DELAYED
TRANSFERS OF CARE (DToc)**

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To keep Members updated on work that is being undertaken to support the interface between community and hospital services and update Members on the numbers of people whose discharge from hospital is delayed.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the work being undertaken to ensure that hospitals are able to manage the demand on their services over the winter months.
- 2.2 Note the number of delayed transfers of Care for Social Care reasons.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The ability of Local Health Boards and Councils to work together to ensure that people are discharged from hospital in a timely and safe manner continues to be seen as measure of success in developing partnership working.
- 3.2 Over the last winter the hospitals across Wales experienced exceptional demand on their services and on a number of occasions were closed to new admissions.
- 3.3 This winter pressure on the hospitals had a knock on effect into both social care and community health services.
- 3.4 Since the spring considerable work has been and is being undertaken to ensure that the difficulties the NHS experienced last winter are not repeated this winter.

4 WORK UNDERTAKEN

- 4.1 The First Minister early in the summer established a task and finish group to consider all issues relating to delayed transfers of care. The group has been

chaired by the Director of Social Services in Torfaen and with senior representation from the NHS and Local Government across Wales.

- 4.2 The work has involved a review of the patient experience, looking at examples from each Local Health Board of people who experienced long delays in being discharged to care home accommodation. A review of the choice procedure, work on 'front door services', definitions and measures and different models of care.
- 4.3 The group is due to report shortly with an expectation that its recommendations will be acted on immediately.
- 4.4 Local Health Boards and Local Authorities have also been required to prepare and submit plans to Welsh Government on how they will better manage winter pressures this year. These unscheduled care plans have been scrutinised by Welsh Government who have planned a series of seminars to share learning and ideas and hold organisations to account.
- 4.5 We have agreed and submitted a plan with Merthyr and Cwm Taf some of the elements of which include:
- An ability to manage increased demand by opening additional bed capacity
 - A more proactive approach from senior managers to ensuring timely discharge and ensuring the choice procedure is adhered to.
 - Making use of a small number of residential care beds to facilitate faster discharge home or prevent admission to hospital.
 - Continuing to make best use of community resources such as district nursing, intermediate care and reablement services.
- 4.6 The LHB and Council will also be considering other measures that may assist, such as jointly funding some "interim care home placements" where people's first choice of home is not immediately available.

5.0 DELAYED TRANSFER OF CARE

5.1 The work identified above will improve the flow of patients through hospital, inevitably though there will continue to be a very small number of people who remain in hospital longer than they need to. One of the national workstreams identified above has been looking at whether DToC figures are helpful in managing and addressing this issue and will form part of their report.

5.2 Our performance on delayed transfers is given in the following tables@

5.3 Delayed transfers of care for social care reasons

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
April	11	5	8	4
May	8	3	5	5
June	6	13	7	6
July	11	15	3	3
August	8	13	5	12
September	12	9	7	13

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
October	4	11	1	
November	7	11	5	
December	8	5	8	
January	13	6	13	
February	10	8	6	
March	8	10	7	
Total	98	109	75	43* up to Sept

5.4 For patient related reasons

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
April	40	12	7	8
May	42	18	6	7
June	34	6	8	4
July	35	9	9	13
August	32	10	10	7
September	26	11	7	7
October	22	13	4	
November	20	14	9	
December	13	12	13	
January	13	11	9	
February	13	6	7	
March	13	9	4	
Totals	303	131	93	46* up to Sept 2013

5.5 Comparisons with previous years

Year	Target	Performance
2009/10	3.80	5.54
2010/11	5.86	5.40
2011/12	5.84	5.81
2012/13	5.75	

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 There is focus at present on addressing the issues that will reduce the pressure on the hospital system this winter. Rhondda Cynon Taf are contributing to this work to ensure services such as “step up down” are available and there is clear and timely communication between our partners.
- 6.2 Whilst seeking to address the immediate pressures we are also ensuring that the solutions, such as intermediate care and reablement are sustainable into the future.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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Item: Community and Hospital Interface and Delayed Transfers of Care

Background Papers

WELSH GOVERNMENT

**DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE
DATABASE IMPLEMENTATION & PROCESS: GUIDANCE NOTES
VERSION 3 (UPDATED OCTOBER 2009)**

**LG/ML/001/11 SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE TO WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR
2004(066): PROCEDURES WHEN DISCHARGING PATIENTS FROM HOSPITAL
TO A CARE SETTING**

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