

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – HEALTH SELECT COMMISSION

1	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Health Select Commission</b>
2	<b>Date:</b>	<b>23 October 2014</b>
3	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Hospital Discharges</b>
4	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Neighbourhoods and Adult Services</b>

### 5 Summary

Rotherham as a health and social care community admits more patients into hospital with long-term conditions at any one time, above the national average. Patients are admitted into acute hospital beds that do not necessarily require that acute level of care.

The number of emergency admissions continues to rise year on year, and this year there is to date a 7.6% increase in emergency admissions compared to last year. There is a significant increase in the number of frail elderly people being admitted to hospital.

Following concerns based on anecdotal evidence, that there was a problem with out of hours discharges (late at night or weekend) and patients being discharged without adequate support arrangements in place. Elected Members requested a spotlight review to be undertaken to look into these concerns.

A spotlight review took place between May and August 2013, and a report with a number of recommendations was presented to the Health Select Commission. This report provides an update on the action plan in response to those recommendations.

### 6 Recommendations

- **That the Health Select Commission receives and notes the report.**

## **7 Proposals and Details**

- 7.1 The recommendations of the Spotlight review have been welcomed, and have been addressed through effective joint work between NHS Rotherham and RMBC. Good progress has been made in addressing the recommendations, as can be seen from the attached plan, which has been agreed by the Clinical Commissioning Group, and the Rotherham Foundation Trust.
- 7.2 The potential for unsafe discharges has reduced, the Care Co-ordination Centre and the hospital have done a lot of work on managing how it plans and co-ordinates discharge, this includes talking, having written communication to both patients and carers about predicted date of discharge.

## **8 Finance**

The recommendations have been implemented without any additional resources being required.

## **9 Risks and Uncertainties**

The recommendations in this report have been taken forward by strategic leads within NHS/RMBC to minimise risk and improve outcomes for patients.

Communication – effective communication is the key to ensure proposed recommendations are implemented and to avoid unnecessary misconceptions about discharges.

## **10 Background Papers and Consultation**

- Scrutiny Review of Hospital Discharges (September 2013)
- Community Care Delayed Discharge Act 2003

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