

Adult Social Care Winter Plan

Appendix 'A' refers

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Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of the LCC Adult Social Care Winter Plan. The plan has been developed to set out the approach of Adult Social Care to the challenges of 'winter' for 2016/17, and compliments winter plans produced by NHS partners across Lancashire to set out resilience across the winter period. The plan has been shared at A&E Delivery Boards and NHS partners as part of whole system resilience.

This is the first time that Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care have produced such a plan, and it is anticipated that the plan will develop in future years as we participate in planning resilience across the Health economies.

It is recognised that although there are pressures across the system year-round, winter provides additional challenges for all partners across the urgent care system, not least the extended holiday period.

The Adult Social Care Winter Plan sets out the challenges for social care, and the contributions and actions being taken to mitigate these challenges, including expanded services where the NHS have transferred resilience monies to the County Council. It is clear that unless partners work together to meet the challenges of winter, there will be significant implications for vulnerable residents of Lancashire not only with regard to timely discharge from hospital into the most appropriate setting with the right support, but also in keeping people well and as independent as possible within the community.

Recommendation

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to note the production of the plan and its contents.

Background

Winter planning is undertaken each year across Adult Social Care, alongside partners across the NHS. This year through the new A&E Delivery Boards, all partners were requested to provide a full written winter plan that consolidates the information in place to respond to winter pressures.

The Lancashire County Council Adult Social Care Winter Plan is the first one that has been written for the service and pulls together the actions taken by adult social care to meet the challenges of winter and increased pressures across the system. This winter will be additionally challenging for adult social care as we are undertaking a transformation programme (internally branded as Passport to Independence) that will involve all of our staff at all levels, across the winter months. This may lead to additional challenges across staffing capacity, particularly at a leadership level as managers take their teams forward with new ways of working. The plan also details some of the actions already taken as part of the transformation programme that will have a positive impact in meeting the challenges, such as the newly redesigned Reablement service which will see new ways of working ultimately result in doubling the numbers of people able to go through the service.

The plan additionally sets out the provision of social work staff on site in hospitals over the Christmas and New Year period to support flow and enable people to be safely discharged to the right place at the right time, and avoid delays. Current capacity within intermediate care services and the level of domiciliary and residential provision across Lancashire is also included.

The information provided by the County Council to Lancashire residents regarding winter on the LCC website is referenced to promote awareness of this to NHS partners, and this has also been shared in the verbal presentation of the plan at each A&E delivery Board.

An escalation plan is under development to sit alongside the Winter Plan, which will detail trigger and response levels and mitigating actions that will be taken during surge periods. This will sit alongside escalation plans of partners and feed into system resilience.

The contents of the LCC Adult Social Care Winter Plan and those of partners will be regularly discussed at the A&E Delivery Boards as part of system resilience and reviews of actions.

List of background papers

- Winter plan

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

NA