

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

DELAYED TRANSFERS OF CARE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update Cabinet regarding North Lincolnshire's performance on Delayed Transfers of Care, preventing unnecessary delays in hospital and ensuring people return home as safely and quickly as possible.
- 1.2 To demonstrate how the Council and Health services are working together to continue to improve services to support people to return home and are collectively in the top 15%.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The term 'Delayed Transfers of Care' is used to describe a situation where a person is well enough to leave a hospital but for a variety of reasons is still there. The reason for the delay may be the responsibility of social care, health or attributable to a shared health and social care responsibility.
- 2.2 Delays can occur when people are being discharged home, to a residential or nursing home, or are awaiting transfer to a community hospital or hospice. It may be a person is waiting to leave hospital but cannot leave because the support needed to keep them safe at home is proving difficult to arrange, for example equipment or health care support.
- 2.3 Longer stays in hospital can have a negative impact on an older person's health, as they can quickly lose mobility and the ability to do everyday tasks. It is therefore important to make sure everyone has the opportunity to get back home as quickly as possible.

- 2.4 North Lincolnshire health and care services are performing consistently well with regards to rates of delays, and as a result fewer people are being delayed unnecessarily in hospital or care.
- 2.5 Analysis of data provided by NHS England for North Lincolnshire demonstrates that together social care and health are performing within the top 15% of all areas in England for Delayed Transfers of Care. North Lincolnshire's rates of delays have continued to fall steadily over the last year, and were at their lowest in January 2018, despite additional pressures the winter can have on hospital admissions.
- 2.6 Health and care services work together to ensure everything is in place for a successful and timely discharge, helping coordinate tasks such as arranging for equipment and organising support for any care, therapy or health needs.
- 2.7 Excellent partnership working, strengthened relationships and communication between social care and health providers, has been fundamental to making sure services work better together and fewer people are delayed.
- 2.8 Health and care services will continue to work together to improve performance in Delayed Transfers of Care, reducing the number of people waiting unnecessarily in hospital and reducing waiting times.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To note the continued improvement of Delayed Transfers of Care in North Lincolnshire.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 4.1 None

5. OUTCOME OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

- 5.1 N/A

6. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 6.1 There are no known conflicts of interest.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Cabinet to note the continuing good performance for North Lincolnshire in relation Delayed Transfers of Care.

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Date: 13 June 2018

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

LG Inform analysis of Department of Health DToC Statistics