



HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 22ND MARCH 2016

SUBJECT: INTERMEDIATE CARE FUND 15/16

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members with an update on the use of additional Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) monies made available by Welsh Government in December 2016.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Intermediate Care fund for 2015/16 (include full amount of funding made available at the start of the year). was allocated to the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) region and subsequently administered by the Health board. Welsh Government retained 2.5 million of the funding across Wales initially the proposal was that the funding was utilised to share good practice across Wales evidenced from reviews of the schemes.
- 2.2 Welsh Government wrote to all stakeholders on 22nd December 2015 stating that whilst they were still committed to share good practice the revised focus of the 2.5 million would be to reduce the number of people who are delayed from returning home following admission to hospital.
- 2.3 The ABUHB region was allocated £450K which had to be spent between 1st January and 31st March 2016 which evidenced an impact on reducing delayed transfer of care (DToc).

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Welsh Government allocated the ICF funding to ensure partners worked together to improve outcomes for older people and to reduce pressures on the unscheduled care system by supporting people to remain at home, avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions and also preventing delayed discharges.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Welsh Government were very clear that the additional £450K had to be linked to the numerous discussions and action plans that each health board has been asked to prepare with partners to address the number of delayed transfer of care.
- 4.2 Delayed Transfer of Care are classified using a series of codes which are jointly validated by health and Social Care to determine why a person's discharge from hospital has been delayed.

- 4.3 The additional funding was to specifically address people delayed for the following codes:
- Community Care Assessments
 - Community Care Arrangements
 - Selection of Care Home (Choice Policy)
 - Waiting for availability of care home.
- 4.4. In December 2015 there were 221 people delayed across Wales for one of the above reasons hence Welsh Government stipulated that £190K of the £450K must be spend on this. (I'm a little confused here. We seem to mixing up national delays with local funding. I think we need to be consistent.)
- 4.5 The remaining £260K could be used on good practice and improvements in hospital/community interface that have been shown to reduce pressures on services.
- 4.6 The very short timescale to utilise the funding as required whilst being able to evidence impact was a challenge across the region.
- 4.7 The following strategic direction was agreed by all stakeholders:
- Use of assessment beds
 - GWICES (please put in full title), purchase of stock equipment identified as required for discharge
 - Community Neuro Rehabilitation Services to be used to facilitate early discharges with follow up community support.
- 4.8 The following operational priorities were agreed, across the ABUHB area:
- Care and Repair £95K across the region to provide rapid response for provision of minor adaptations to enable safe discharge
 - Additional capacity for assessments, provision of additional social worker staff for 3 months in Blaenau Gwent, Newport and Caerphilly , additional administrative staff to manage the information requirements to inform green/complex list in Caerphilly, Newport , Torfaen and the Health Board £67K
 - Purchase of specific equipment for bariatrics and Continuing Health Care £20K and stock equipment for GWICES £45K
 - Additional assessment capacity for Continuing Health Care with associated IT £32K
 - Additional capacity in the domiciliary care both in house and external in Caerphilly, Newport and Torfaen £83K
 - IT in Monmouth £5K
 - Light house project in Newport which is coordinating housing issues £45K
 - Additional assessment beds in Extra Care in Blaenau Gwent £30K
 - Telecare £3K in Blaenau Gwent.
- 4.9 In addition the Welsh government announced as part of its draft budget that there will be an increase in the Intermediate Care Fund budget to £50M for 16/17. We are still awaiting details of the exact allocation of the grant and details of any revisions in criteria to enable us to agree with partners how best to use this revenue funding going forward. Proposals for expenditure have to be agreed by the Health & Social Care Partnership Forum and further reports will be brought to scrutiny committee in due course.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial expenditure is detailed in 4.8 of the report.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The are no specific personnel implications in relation to the report.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The report is for information only therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment does not apply.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 All comments have been included within the report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members note the use of the additional £450K Intermediate Care Funding and additional funding identified for 2016/17.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The report is for information rather than consultation given the timescales in which the money was to be spent

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