



## INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Report Title</b>	Rubislaw Park End of Life Care Beds Evaluation
<b>Report Number</b>	HSCP.22.087
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<b>Consultation Checklist Completed</b>	Yes
<b>Directions Required</b>	No
<b>Appendices</b>	a. Rubislaw Park End of Life Care Beds Evaluation

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. This report seeks to inform the Integration Joint Board of the findings from the evaluation of the Rubislaw Park End of Life Care Beds Test of Change.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:
- a) Note the evaluation presented within Appendix A
  - b) Instruct the Chief Officer to initiate a Business Case on the End of Life Care beds and report this back to Integration Joint Board in November 2022.

### 3. Summary of Key Information

- 3.1. As part of a whole system pathway of care and ACHSCP planning for winter surge, initial approval was given for five interim beds within Rubislaw Park Nursing Home in December 2021 for End-of-Life Care. This evaluation



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follows on from the initial approval for the test of change and looks to evaluate its success and make several recommendations for the future of the service.

- 3.2.** The Evaluation looked at 30 patients who were referred to the service between 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. A holistic evaluation was conducted looking at feedback from Next of Kin/Carers regarding the service. Feedback was also sought from the Rubislaw Park team, Hospital at Home (H@H) team and other services who were in contact with the patient.
- 3.3.** Feedback received from the Next of Kin included the following key points:
- 88% of the Next of Kin surveyed felt that the patients needs were fully met during their stay
  - 100% of the Next of Kin surveyed felt that they were involved with the patient's care as much as they would have liked to be.
  - 88% would recommend the service to others in a similar position
- 3.4.** Feedback from the Rubislaw Park team, the H@H team, Macmillan Nursing, GP's and consultants from AMIA/Ward 102 who were all involved with the test of change also responded positively with many citing that they would hope that the service would continue into the future.
- 3.5.** Demographic data collected regarding the patients stay shows that the bed occupancy level over the evaluation period for the five End of Life Care beds at Rubislaw Park was 43.3%. This was lower than expected, however it was noted that occupancy rates for this setting would be less than the generally accepted ideal of 80-85% in acute wards and sometimes can be as low as 45% in community settings. However, the expansion to allow referrals from all acute sources would help to increase the occupancy level over time.
- 3.6.** Following the conclusion of the evaluation, it is recommended that the service continues with the following considerations:
- Following feedback from Next of Kin, the environment surrounding the End-of-Life beds should be reviewed to ensure it is appropriate
  - The referral pathway should be scaled up to allow patients to be referred from all acute services which should enable the bed occupancy level to rise and would anticipate that this would also impact on the wider system to free up services.



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- The communications plan requires to be reviewed and enhanced to ensure that patients, next of kin and services are all appropriately informed about the service provided.
- At this point in time, it is too soon to show the impact this has had on the wider system and acknowledge that a further evaluation to be conducted 18months after the pathway has been scaled up. This should focus occupancy levels and the impact on Community Services and Admissions Avoidance which has been challenging to obtain during this initial evaluation.
- A Health Inequalities Impact Assessment to be completed and provided along with the Business Case to Integration Joint Board in November 2022

### 4. Implications for Integration Joint Board

#### 4.1. Equalities, Fairer Scotland and Health Inequality

The recommendations from this report should not directly impact upon Equalities. However, data from the evaluation, does demonstrate that the service was equitable on gender basis and looking at Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) data collected that the service was received by equal numbers of patients from deprived and non-deprived areas of Aberdeen.

#### 4.2. Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

#### 4.3. Workforce

There are no direct workforce related implications arising from the recommendations of this report

#### 4.4. Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.



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### 4.5. Covid-19

While Covid 19 regulations were in place during the period the evaluation was conducted and some of the feedback received from the Next of Kin relates to the Covid 19 regulations in place at the Rubislaw Park Care Home, there are no direct Covid 19 related implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

### 4.6. Unpaid Carers

The evaluation of the Rubislaw Park End of Life Care beds shows that there was a direct impact upon the unpaid carers and family members surrounding each patient of Rubislaw Park. Patients were referred when the nursing care was too challenging for the Next of Kin/Carer to continue to carry out but did not medically warrant an acute admission.

When the Next of Kin/Carer's were asked whether the service impacted upon their wellbeing, they fed back that in some cases it allowed them to be family again with one respondent stating "Initially we were upset [when the patient was referred to Rubislaw Park], but there was an element of relief. We had cared for them both [next of kin's parents] for 2 years and we were exhausted". While the evaluation itself has no direct implications for unpaid carers, the findings confirm the services ongoing support for the next of kin/carer.

### 4.7. Other

## 5. Links to ACHSCP Strategic Plan

The Contract clearly links to priorities set out in Aberdeen City's Health & Social Care Partnership's Strategic Plan (2019-2022): Personalisation: Ensuring that the right care is provided in the right place and at the right time.

## 6. Management of Risk

### 6.1. Identified risks(s)

No specific risks raised from this evaluation, and the recommendation to proceed to a business case will endeavour to outline any risks with continuing with the service.



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### 6.2. Link to risks on strategic or operational risk register:

Performance standards/outcomes are set by national and regulatory bodies and those locally determined performance standards are set by the board itself.

Demographic & financial pressures requiring Integration Joint Board to deliver transformational system change which helps to meet its strategic priorities.

### 6.3. How might the content of this report impact or mitigate these risks:

This evaluation helps to ensure that performance standards are maintained and that the services we fund are fit for purpose for the patients and their families who are impacted by their work.

The Rubislaw Park End of Life Care beds evaluation assists in maintaining our ability to respond to the needs of our population, both now and in the future since an aging population is likely to require more palliative care services.