



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

Report Title	Renewal of Interim Care Home Bed Funding
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Report Author (Job Title, Organisation)	Kenneth O'Brien (Service Manager, ACHSCP)
Report Number	HSCP.17.069
Date of Report	26 th July 2017
Date of Meeting	15 th August 2017

1: Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report is presented to the Integration Joint Board (IJB) for the purposes of requesting funding to continue the provision of thirteen care home beds dedicated to supporting discharge out of hospital.
- 1.2 Resultantly, this report provides to the IJB:
- Background information relating to the use of the interim care home beds.
 - A summary of recent performance information relating to delayed discharges associated with a need for care home admission.
 - A financial breakdown summarising the costs of renewing the interim beds.
 - An indication of 'next steps' if the IJB approves funding as requested.

2: Summary of Key Information

Background

- 2.1 Since October 2015, with the agreement of the Chief Officer of the City Health and Social Care Partnership and the Aberdeen City Delayed Discharge Group – 6 beds had been booked in advance in a local nursing home under the auspices of the National Care Home Contract (NCHC). The purpose of those beds was to provide dedicated interim placements for those individuals who were in hospital care, but were:



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1. Fit for discharge;
 2. Assessed as requiring permanent nursing home admission;
 3. Did not have a place immediately available in their care homes of choice.
- 2.2 The intention was to provide some flexibility in nursing home placement arrangements to allow for speedier discharges – this was particularly important as “awaiting nursing home admission” had consistently been recorded in delayed discharge statistics as being the highest single contributor to the overall volume of ‘standard’ delayed discharges recorded.
- 2.3 Given the success of the original tranche of six nursing care home beds in reducing nursing care home related delays in hospital, it was agreed by both the City Delayed Discharge Group and the Aberdeen City IJB to expand the initiative. As a result, following request for ‘notes of interest’, three care homes offered THIRTEEN additional beds for use as interim placements. The IJB formally approved funding for the thirteen additional beds (via the dedicated delayed discharge funding stream) at its 30th August 2016 meeting.
- 2.4 Subsequently, letters of agreement were issued to the care homes in question, and the beds came on stream ‘piece meal’ as providers had vacancies to offer. However all of the 13 ‘expansion’ beds now have the same ‘end date’ – namely 30th November 2017. At the same time, as agreements were signed with care home providers, Primary Care Development colleagues negotiated agreements with GP practices to deliver primary care medical services to the interim beds in the care homes. This was also funded through delayed discharge monies (again authorised by the IJB at its 30th August 2016 meeting).
- 2.5 Given that the funding approved by the IJB expires at the end of November 2017, consideration is required as to the future of the interim beds. The Partnership’s Delayed Discharge Group explicitly considered this issue at its May 2017 meeting by evaluating the impact the expansion of the interim care home beds had on care home related delays.

Evaluation

- 2.6 Fortunately, via the monthly delayed discharge census returns to the Scottish Government, it is possible to explicitly identify the delays in discharge which relate specifically to care home supply/flow issues. Health Intelligence



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colleagues undertook an analysis looking at both the **volume of individuals delayed** and the **number of bed days lost** that could be linked to a need for nursing care home provision.

2.7 It was agreed that, to allow for a fair comparison, the period October 2016 - March 2017 (when the additional interim beds were on stream), would be compared with the same period in the previous year, October 2015 – March 2016 (when only the 6 original nursing interim beds were in place).

2.8 The patient volumes and 'bed days delayed' labelled using the following delayed discharge codes were counted and collated for both time periods:

- Place Availability 24C Awaiting Place Availability in Nursing Home
- Care Arrangements 25A Awaiting completion of arrangements for Care Home placement

2.9 For the 2015/16 data (prior to the introduction of the additional interim beds), delays related to nursing home placement/provision remained notable components of the Partnership's overall delayed discharge position [5220 bed days lost].

2.10 Conversely, the 2016/17 data (post introduction of additional interim bed capacity) shows a decrease in both volumes of individuals delayed and bed days due to nursing home placement/provision [2010 bed days lost purely due to care home placement reasons].

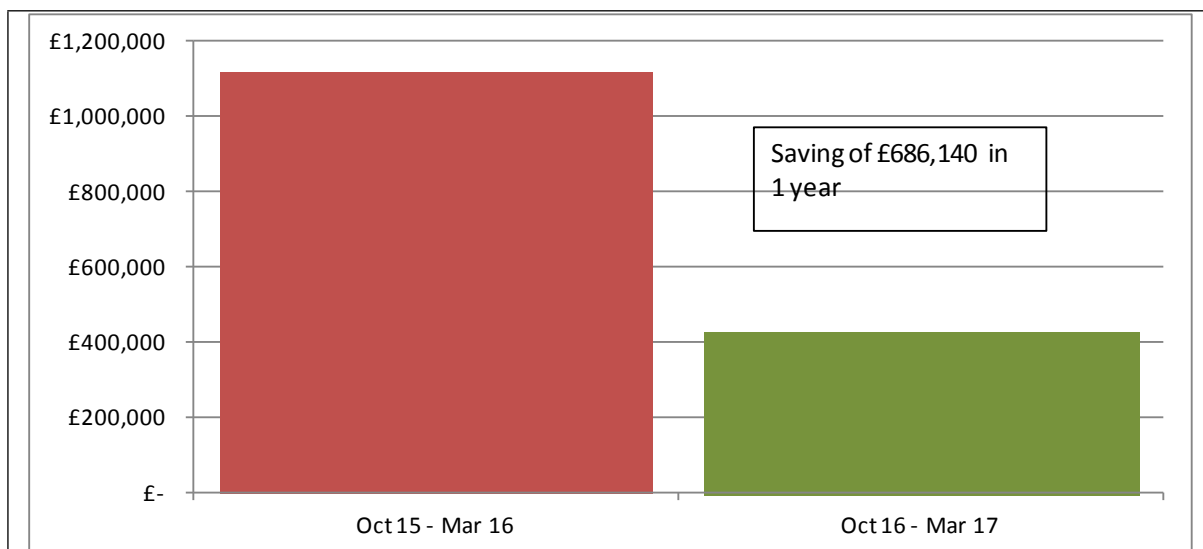
2.11 The quantitative data can be summarised as follows:

	2015/16	2016/17	+ or -	% change
Volume of Patients Delayed	147	82	-65	-44%
Number of Bed Days Lost	5220	2010	-3210	-61%

2.12 In monetary terms, applying the NHS National Services Scotland ISD national average delayed discharge 'bed day' cost figure (£214 per day) to the volume of bed days saved, it can be seen that there have been indicative savings of £686,140 due to the reduction of 3210 delayed bed days over the two periods.



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2.13 It should be noted that operational staff identified that the additional interim beds were exceptionally useful as 'surge' capacity during January/February 2017 when there was a large 'winter pressures' influx of additional delayed discharges.

2.14 After examining various potential options it was **agreed that it should recommend that the IJB approve funding for the full thirteen beds for an additional 24 month period.** However, the Delayed Discharge Group also agreed that the eligibility criteria for the beds should be varied to allow (in non-surge/winter periods) for the beds to be accessed from the community to prevent hospital admissions when they are void. It was also felt that although funding should be for a 24 month period, the beds should be booked on a 12 month rolling programme.

Costs/Funding Breakdown

2.15 In the scenario where the IJB approves a 12 month rolling programme with funding from the dedicated delayed discharge budget, this would result in full year costs of **£417,944.04.**

2.16 This cost projection has been calculated on the basis of the weekly National Care Home Rate for 2017/18 of £667.09, alongside minimum client contributions of £133.15 for 50% of the beds (long term care), and client contributions of £73.50 for 25% of the beds (respite admissions). On the assumption of surge capacity being 'built into' the beds, 25% of the beds have no client contribution factored into them – reflecting potential voids at



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'non surge' periods [resulting in a total 'bed' cost of **£397,944.04**].

- 2.17 Primary Care Medical Costs for the beds would also still need to be met by the Delayed Discharge Fund, for the additional medical cover required to support these beds. As the beds are now to be used slightly more flexibly (including use to support admissions from the community in non-peak periods) an increase in GP usage may also incur an increase on overall budget [primary care medical cover now set at **£20,000** per year].

Next Steps

- 2.18 The option to potentially continue funding the thirteen interim beds post November 2017 was announced via an informal 'notice' that was sent to all registered care home providers in Aberdeen. The 'notice' asked all of Aberdeen City's nursing home providers to indicate if they had an interest in providing interim beds from 1st December 2017 onwards. It was apparent from the replies to this notice that there is sufficient interest amongst the care home providers to support a further year of interim bed provision.
- 2.19 If the IJB approves the spending to renew the thirteen interim beds on a 12 month rolling programme for an additional 24 months, those care home providers who expressed an interest in providing interim beds will be approached to discuss/agree provision in the first instance.
- 2.20 There will be no requirement to carry out a formal procurement exercise because the expansion of the interim beds relates only to the numbers of beds to be booked in advance - there has been no change to the service to be provided under the National Care Home Contract. Aberdeen City Council Commercial and Procurement Services have (and will continue to) provide advice, guidance and supported contact with the care home providers throughout this process.
- 2.21 The wider commissioning work which the City Partnership is currently undertaking will incorporate the needs and demands for interim care home beds in the longer term, post the 24 month period.



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3: Equalities, Financial, Workforce and Other Implications

Equalities

- 3.1 The issue of Delayed Discharge disproportionately impacts upon older adults and adults with chronic illness and/or long term disabilities. If continued use of interim beds is approved, it is not anticipated that there will be anything other than a positive impact for both groups via the already noted improvement in the timeliness of discharges.

Financial

- 3.2 Factoring in funding from the Delayed Discharge monies, the following total costs (including beds and medical costs) would be incurred.

Costs in 2017/18 Financial Year (Dec '17 – March '18):	<u>£139,314.68</u>
Costs in 2018/19 (until end of Nov 2018):	<u>£278,629.36</u>

Similar costs would be incurred in the following 12 months, December 2018 through November 2019, but there may be a degree of adjustment depending on the outcome of National Care Home Contract negotiations for the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20.

Workforce

- 3.3 There are no direct workforce implications related to this report.

4: Management of Risk

Identified risk(s):

- There is a risk that the IJB and the services that it directs and has operational oversight of fail to meet performance standards or outcomes as set by regulatory bodies and that, as a result, harm or risk of harm to people occurs.*



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Link to risk number on strategic or operational risk register: SEVEN

How might the content of this report impact or mitigate the known risks:

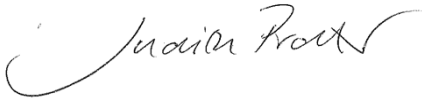

One of the most high profile performance standards the Partnership is held to account for is that of the numbers of people delayed in hospital unnecessarily. Significant volumes of delays will always have tangible consequences for patient flow and care – particularly in times of peak demand. The interim bed project helps to address the overall volume (and length) of delays within the hospital estate – thereby mitigating some of this risk.

5: Recommendations

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

1. Approves the project to renew the funding of the thirteen interim beds for a further twenty-four month period, commencing 1st December 2017.
2. Instructs the Chief Officer to provide an update on the interim bed base project by the end of the twenty-four month period unless by exception.
3. Instructs the Chief Officer to issue the Direction to Aberdeen City Council to purchase the 13 interim beds for twenty-four months.

6: Signatures

	Judith Proctor (Chief Officer)
	Alex Stephen (Chief Finance Officer)