

DECISION-MAKER:	HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
SUBJECT:	TRANSFER OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE WARD FROM SOUTHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL TO ROYAL SOUTH HANTS
DATE OF DECISION:	27 SEPTEMBER 2012
REPORT OF:	SENIOR MANAGER (CUSTOMER AND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT)
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report provides details of the proposed temporary transfer of 24 elderly care beds from Southampton General Hospital to the Royal South Hants.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) The panel consider if they are content with the transfer of elderly care bed from Southampton General Hospital to Royal South Hants for a period of 6 months.
- (ii) To consider what further information, if any, is required from University Hospitals Southampton Foundation Trust.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To provide the panel with the opportunity to comment on the proposals.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. The University Hospitals Southampton Foundation Trust (UHS) wrote to the Chair of the Panel in June regarding the proposed of a 24 bed elderly care ward from Southampton General Hospital (SGH) to the Royal South Hants (RSH) managed by Solent NHS Trust (appendix 1).

The rational for the move was increased demand for urgent care leading to a knock on effect on waiting times for elective surgery. The change was needed to increase bed capacity at the hospital.

Further briefing papers were provided by UHS in June and July (appendix 2 and 3).

Hampshire HOSC wrote to UHS in July following discussion at a meeting to raise the following concerns

- The number of Hampshire patients likely to be affected by this move.

- That the re-opened ward at the Royal South Hants Hospital is clinically and therapeutically appropriate, and that there will be adequate medical cover.
- How this move in beds will result in improved outcomes and patient pathways for:
 - a. Elderly care patients
 - b. Surgical care patients
 - c. Urgent and emergency care patients
- The engagement that will be undertaken with current and future service users, their families and carers.
- The consultation work undertaken with stakeholders who are involved in the elderly care pathway, specifically Southampton and Hampshire Council adult services, community health service providers, the ambulance service and patient transport services.

and a copy of the correspondence and the response from UHS dated 5 September are attached at appendixes 4 and 5.

4. On 14 August the Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) wrote to UHS outlining their concerns with the proposed bed transfers. The two main areas of concern related to the difficulty in responding to clinical challenges in wards remote from the main acute hospital and the selection criteria for patients who would be transferred. The letter also requested confirmation that both Hampshire and Southampton HOSCs are content with the proposed transfer. A copy of the letter is attached at appendix 6.
5. Following further discussions with UHS the CCG wrote again on 24 August agreeing, subject to provisos including support from HOSC, that the transfer could take place on a temporary basis for up to 6 months to help offset winter pressures whilst the Trust continue to implement whole system change to deal with capacity issues. A copy of the letter and the response from UHS are at appendix 7 and 8.
6. The Chair of the Panel met recently with the Chief Officer (designate) of the CCG to discuss the proposal and agreed the panel should formal discuss the issue before the proposed implementation of the transfer in early October.

To inform the discussion the Chair has also requested views from the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust and Southampton City Council Adult Social Care department. Confirmation has also been sought from UHS regarding the cost of the proposed temporary bed transfer.

Responses will be circulated to members upon receipt.

7. A number of acronyms are used and the appendixes to this paper and a short glossary is attached at appendix 9.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

8. Information has been requested from UHS regarding the cost of the proposal.

Property/Other

9. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

10. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

AUTHOR:	Name:	Caronwen Rees	Tel:	023 80932524
	E-mail:	Caronwen.rees@southampton.gov.uk		

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:

Appendices

1.	Letter from Steve McManus dated 13 June 2012
2.	Briefing Paper June 2012
3.	Briefing Paper July 2012
4.	Letter from Councillor Pat West dated 25 July 2012
5.	Letter from Mark Hackett dated 5 September
6.	Letter from Les Judd dated 14 August
7.	Letter from John Richards dated 24 August
8.	Letter from Mark Hackett dated 28 August
9.	Glossary of Terms

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Integrated Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to be carried out.	No
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Title of Backgrou Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable) N/A
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