

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides background information regarding the Final report of the Dementia Scrutiny Review.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Hospital Discharge Scrutiny Review was held during 2008/9, with the final report being presented to the Social Care & Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 25th March 2009. During the evidence-gathering stage of that review, issues were raised with the panel members regarding support for people with dementia in hospital and in the community.
- 1.2 It was therefore agreed by the Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee that an in-depth review should be held to investigate the care of patients with dementia in general hospitals. A Panel of members was sought to undertake the review.
- 1.3 Subsequently, the following members volunteered to be members of the Panel:
 - Councillor Ann Bridson (Chair)
 - Councillor Denise Roberts
 - Councillor Sheila Clarke
 - Former Councillor Chris TeggThe panel has been supported by a Scrutiny Support Officer, Alan Veitch.

2. Focus for the Review

- 2.1 The Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the Scope for the review in June 2009.
- 2.2 The main issues were identified in the Scope document as:
 - Management of patients with dementia in an acute hospital setting.
 - Impact of patients with dementia on other patients during a stay in hospital.
 - Are there alternative approaches which allow more patients with dementia to be cared for outside an acute hospital setting?
 - Is it possible to keep more people with dementia in their own home for as long as possible?

3. Evidence Gathering

The Panel has employed a number of methods to gather evidence:

- Meetings / visits with officers
- Meetings with carers of people with dementia
- Written evidence from individuals
- Written documentation / reports, both from a national and local perspective

4. The Final Report

The Final Report, 'The Care of People with Dementia in an Acute Hospital Setting', which includes 14 recommendations, is attached for consideration by the Cabinet.

5. Responses to the Report

The report was presented to the Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 22nd March 2011. The Committee resolved the following:

- (1) That the contents and recommendations of the Dementia Scrutiny Review be supported;
- (2) That the Dementia Scrutiny Report be presented to the next appropriate cabinet meeting;
- (3) That further reports be presented to the Health & Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Committee to update members regarding the outcomes of the recommendations;
- (4) That the Review Panel be thanked for all their work on the review.

In addition, Len Richards, Chief Executive of Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, who attended the meeting, responded to the report. He commented that he was in discussion with the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust regarding a joint approach and that he would make a formal response to the review's recommendations to the Committee in the next few months.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet:

- (1) Welcomes the report of the Dementia Scrutiny Review and thanks all those who have contributed to it;
- (2) Asks the Interim Director of Adult Social Care, in partnership with NHS Wirral, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust and Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to facilitate the integration of services for people with dementia and similar conditions to produce a single pathway of support;
- (3) Invites the Health & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider whether they would undertake a scrutiny review of the provision of Local Authority services for people with dementia, and what further steps could be taken to enhance outcomes through early intervention and support.