

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Delayed Transfers of Care from the Royal Berkshire Hospital</b>	<b>Item 4</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Healthier Select Committee	
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	7 April 2011	

**Purpose of Report:** To consider the latest figures in relation to Delayed Transfers of Care from the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

**Recommended Action:** To note the briefing and consider what remedial action, if any, is required.

<b>Healthier Select Committee Chairman</b>	
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## Supporting Information

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### 1. Introduction – Delay Transfers of Care (social care related)

- 1.1 This Council is committed to working in partnership with the NHS in the provision of high quality health and social care, to prevent unnecessary hospital admissions as well as preventing delayed transfers.
- 1.2 When the Community Care Act 2003 was implemented, the Council worked with partners across the local health and social care economy on a protocol to agree how we would work across our respective organisations to prevent delays occurring. There was recognition by the partners that pressure in one part of the system should not be regarded in isolation and that it was in everyone's interests to work in a spirit of co-operation. As such, this Council invested associated grant monies in a joint intermediate care team and in NHS posts on the basis that fines should not be imposed and has continued to seek to work in close co-operation with the NHS, with a clearly expressed aim towards further integration, leading on the development of a whole systems approach on behalf of Berkshire West. As a result of that earlier work a joint protocol was agreed between all parties.
- 1.3 West Berkshire Council has been experiencing a very high level of demand in comparison with our near neighbours for the past year and this has been evidenced in a report presented to the Committee in January 2011.
- 1.4 This increase in demand has coincided with other adverse impacts on Council budgets, the most significant being the local NHS led review of Continuing Health Care Funding which resulted in a £850k additional costs to the Council. This, along with the unexpected early closure of a care home, placed budgets under significant pressure.
- 1.5 Following discussions with NHS partners regarding these local pressures, the PCT provided £1m additional resources in year to social care across Berkshire West, of which this Council has used £360k in order to purchase additional care beds to reduce delayed transfers. The PCT originally funded 20 beds although this has now fallen to 18. This funding ceases on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 at which point the costs going forward will fall on the Council. These pressures have been accounted for in the revenue budget build process for 2011/12.
- 1.6 In addition, national changes are being implemented to NHS funding which recognise the pressures on adult social care as a consequence of the strategic move from acute to community based services.
- 1.7 As a result of the in-year additional investment, we have been able to reduce the number of delayed transfers of care in the Royal Berkshire Hospital to a level comparable with neighbouring authorities. We are now involved in joint planning for use of the new DH revenue monies for 2011/12.
- 1.8 For 2010/11 the DOH announced monies to assist social care to manage the winter demand. WBC received an allocation of £326,000 which has been used to offset some of the overspend in adult social care. Additionally it announced reablement monies for improving hospital discharge and avoiding admission. This has been

used to place a social worker on site at RBH and additional funding for the Crisis service to prevent admissions

- 1.9 For 2011/12, funding of £1.3m for social care support has gone into the Council's budget build. A further allocation to the PCT for reablement services of £1.1m is to be spent across Berkshire West to enhance community services

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To note the briefing and consider what remedial action, if any, is required.

## **Appendices**

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Appendix A – Graphs of delayed transfers of care for Quarter 3 & 4.