


Agenda Item 10

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
Boston Borough Council	East Lindsey District Council	City of Lincoln Council	Lincolnshire County Council
North Kesteven District Council	South Holland District Council	South Kesteven District Council	West Lindsey District Council

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, the Director Responsible for Democratic Services

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	23 November 2016
Subject:	Delayed Transfers of Care – The Next Steps

Summary:

On 16 March 2016, the Health Scrutiny Committee requested the Adults Scrutiny Committee give consideration to the scrutiny of delayed transfers of care. The Adults Scrutiny Committee has considered delayed transfers of care on three occasions since this request: 6 April, 7 September and 19 October, 2016. In the meantime, references to delayed transfers of care have been included in three reports to the Health Scrutiny Committee (20 April, 21 September and 26 October 2016).

This report invites the Health Scrutiny Committee to consider the next steps for its review and scrutiny of delayed transfers of care.

Actions Required:

(1) To consider the next steps in relation to the Health Scrutiny Committee's review and scrutiny of delayed transfers of care.

1. Delayed Transfers of Care - Previous Committee Consideration

On 16 March 2016, the Health Scrutiny Committee requested that the Adults Scrutiny Committee give consideration to the scrutiny of delayed transfers of care. This request was made on the basis that the Adults Scrutiny Committee is the lead committee for the scrutiny of the Better Care Fund, and for 2016/17 reducing delayed transfers of care is key measurement of the Better Care Fund.

Consideration by the Adults Scrutiny Committee

The Adults Scrutiny Committee has considered two reports where delayed transfers of care formed a substantial element: firstly on 6 April 2016, as part of an item on *Seasonal Resilience of Adult Care*, and secondly on 19 October 2016, when it considered a report entitled *Adult Care Acute Delayed Transfers of Care*. The Committee has also received detailed performance information as part of its Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring report on the Better Care Fund on 7 September 2016.

On 19 October, the Adults Scrutiny Committee resolved to note the information presented. As part of the discussion, it was suggested that the Health Scrutiny Committee take the lead on scrutinising delayed transfers of care in the future. It was also suggested that a joint meeting be held or joint working group be established to give further consideration to the topic.

Consideration by the Health Scrutiny Committee

The Health Scrutiny Committee has continued to receive information on delayed transfers of care as part of its regular consideration of Urgent Care Updates (20 April 2016 and 21 September 2016). The inclusion of this information has reflected the importance of 'patient flow' to ensuring the urgent care system operated effectively. The Health Scrutiny Committee also considered an item on Winter Planning 2016/17 on 26 October 2016, which again made reference to delayed transfers of care.

2. The Next Steps

The Health Scrutiny Committee can continue in its role scrutinising delayed transfers of care as part of its health scrutiny role, focusing on NHS organisations and their efforts to reduce delays, for example as part of its updates on Urgent Care or specifically requesting an item. Similarly, the Adults Scrutiny Committee will continue to receive quarterly performance information on the Better Care Fund, which includes extensive detail on delayed transfers of care performance. The next such report on Quarter 2 is due to be considered on 30 November 2016.

To consolidate and enhance the individual scrutiny activity of each committee, the Health Scrutiny Committee may wish to give consideration to promoting joint activity between the two committees. This could take the form of a joint informal meeting, involving members of each committee, which would focus on delayed transfers of care. Alternatively, the Health Scrutiny Committee may consider establishing a working group to look at this matter in more detail. The Health Scrutiny Committee may wish to consider inviting representatives from the Adults Scrutiny Committee to participate. If this latter option were the wish of the Health Scrutiny Committee, a way forward may be for each committee to nominate three members to serve on the working group. Outcomes from the working group could be reported to each committee.

3. Conclusion

The Adults Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee have separately considered information on the topic of delayed transfers of care during 2016 – at least three occasions for each committee. In view of this, the Health Scrutiny Committee may wish to give consideration on how it wishes to scrutinise this topic in the future.

4. Consultation

There is no direct consultation as part of this item.

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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