

## OUT OF HOSPITAL CARE SYSTEM UPDATE

Housing and Health Advisory Committee - 29 November 2016

Report of Chief Officer Communities & Business

Status: For Information

Key Decision: No

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**Executive Summary:** This report updates Members on the out-of-hospital system developed to support people's earlier discharge from hospital through integrated housing and health services.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of safe and caring communities and healthy environment**

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Michelle Lowe

**Contact Officer** Hayley Brooks, Ext. 7272

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**Recommendation to Housing & Health Advisory Committee:** To note the content of this report.

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### Reason for recommendation:

To update Members on the work of officers to develop hospital discharge services to support people to return home from hospital faster by improving their home environment and lifestyle.

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### Introduction and Background

- 1 This Council works with key partners including Kent Public Health Team, GP Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), local health and social care providers and the voluntary sector to meet the Healthy Environment priorities within the Community Plan to reduce health inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing of residents.
- 2 This Council has integrated the communities, housing and health teams to have a greater impact on improving the health and wellbeing of residents and to deliver targeted work. This work aims to address the wider determinants of health such as housing, mental wellbeing, environmental, social and economic factors.
- 3 This Council receives a mandatory grant to deliver Disabled Facility Grants (DFGs) for home adaptations as part of the Better Care Fund. This grant

aims to overcome obstacles or enable independent living, confidence and dignity for at home for vulnerable residents. Works often undertaken to ensure independent living includes stair lifts, flush floor showers through to extending a dwelling.

- 4 This Council is working in partnership with Clinical Commissioning Groups and the NHS Hospital Trust to look at ways of delivering more holistic and integrated services to support vulnerable residents being discharged from hospital. This includes using DFG's to deliver home adaptations for those who can not be discharged from hospital due to a home adaptation or improvement need.

### **Integrated Hospital Discharge Service**

- 5 To improve health outcomes by reducing the length of stay in acute and community hospitals, this Council is providing housing related support to the Hospital Discharge Co-ordinators to assist with earlier discharges through housing initiatives.
- 6 The aim of this project is to reduce the dependency of residents on acute hospital beds and facilitate and maintain independence at home. It utilises the DFG to deliver home adaptations and housing officers to co-ordinate initiatives to address the wider health determinants to create healthier home environments.
- 7 This Council is delivering this work at Tunbridge Wells Hospital as a six month pilot from 7 November 2016 in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council and Family Mosaic. Family Mosaic are providing a Housing Discharge Co-ordinator and Handy Persons service to deliver home adaptations and repairs as well as assessing the housing, social and wellbeing needs of residents being discharged from this hospital.
- 8 This work is also being taken forward by this Council with the Discharge Co-ordinator for Edenbridge and Sevenoaks Community Hospitals. A HERO Officer works closely with the Co-ordinator to support earlier discharge through the delivery and co-ordination of HERO and other Council services including DFG's, healthy living initiatives and housing advice.
- 9 Members will be updated at the meeting with a presentation on this work.

### **Key Implications**

#### Financial

- 10 This Council is utilising its DFG allocation to deliver this work. There are no other financial implications for the Council associated to this report.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

11 There are no legal implications for the Council associated to this report.

### Equality Assessment

12 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

### **Conclusions**

13 To update Members on the work of officers to integrate housing related support into hospital discharge services to support vulnerable people to return to their own homes and live independently.

**Lesley Bowles**  
**Chief Officer Communities & Business**