

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
REPORT TO THE TRUST HEALTHCARE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2012

Subject:	Patient Transfers and Discharge Communication
Supporting Director:	Professor H Chapman, Chief Nurse/ Chief Operating Officer
Author:	Linda Browell, Service Manager, Transfer of Care Team
Status¹	Note

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee about the structure, policies and processes within the Trust for co-ordinating patient transfers and discharges and provide assurance of compliance with CQC Outcome 6.

KEY POINTS:

The key points are:

- The Care Quality Commission (CQC) Outcome 6 focuses on the co-ordination of internal transfer and discharge arrangements and the sharing of essential information.
- The Trust has policies in place which describe the requirements and processes for internal transfer and discharge of patients. These policies have been amended to include community services and have achieved the standard required by the NHS Litigation Authority Level 1 assessment in March 2012
- There has been a comprehensive review of the three teams working within the Trust facilitating patient transfers to the community. In August 2012 the three teams, Discharge Liaison, Length of Stay Team and The Front Door Response Team were merged to form the new Transfer of Care Team under the management of Linda Browell situated within Interface Services within the Primary and Community Services Directorate. The Team specialises in discharge co-ordination, intermediate care liaison, palliative and terminal care transfers and continuing health care. They work alongside community colleagues to facilitate patient pathways including stroke, falls, dementia, respiratory and heart failure. There are close working relationships with the Local Authority Social Work Teams, Sheffield Health and Social Care Teams, Community Services, Voluntary and Independent Sector Agencies.
- The Right First Time Programme continues with Eddie Sherwood, Director of Care and Support at the City Council leading a project as part of the Unscheduled Care Programme to improve assessment processes across health and social care. The new transfer of care document and processes are scheduled to be fully introduced by the beginning of November 2012.
- The review of the Continuing Health Care arrangements in Sheffield is complete and the various agencies are working through an implementation plan.
- There has been an improvement in the application and recording of Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty arrangements in relation to discharge planning.

IMPLICATIONS

	Aim of the STHFT Corporate Strategy 2012-2017	Tick as Appropriate
1	Deliver the best clinical outcomes	✓
2	Provide Patient Centred Care	✓
3	Employ Caring and Cared for Staff	✓
4	Spend Public Money Wisely	✓
5	Deliver Excellent Research, Education & Innovation	
	CQC Outcome	✓

RECOMMENDATION(S):

TEG is asked to note the contents of this report.

APPROVAL PROCESS

Meeting	Presented by	Approved	Date
TEG	Richard Parker	Yes	07 November 2012
HCGC	Hilary Chapman		26 November 2012

¹ Status: A = Approval
A* = Approval & Requiring Board Approval
D = Debate
N = Note