

Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC

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Winter Planning

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Format

- Background and key aims
- Managing winter pressures, current position and Public Health projections
- Health and social care plans
- Avoiding admissions and community support
- Key risks
- Summary

Background, Key Aims, Current Position

Two types of Winter Plan

- Surge – managing increased health and care demand
- Cold Weather – our response to adverse weather

Winter plans developed over the summer and regularly updated with submissions to NHSE and the ICB

Managed by the LADB and daily operational meetings

Key aims

- Support the health and wellbeing of the workforce
- Safely manage surges in demand for health and care
- Safely embed Infection Prevention and Control Principles
- Protect elective surgery
- Safe and effective discharge
- Care for people in the community and avoid admissions

Current position – sustained period of high demand and varying Covid with Public Health projecting future challenges



Health and Social Care Plans 1

- Workforce
 - Flu and Covid vaccination programme
 - Additional recruitment and deployment across all Teams – Supporting Planned and unplanned care – Medics, Nurses and AHPs
 - Increased Bank rates to targeted staff groups
 - Wellbeing support
- Surges in demand
 - Additional bed capacity in acute and community hospitals e.g. 24 beds in Ward 3 UHND and additional capacity in four community hospitals and one planned.
 - Estate works to using Targeted Investment Funding (TIF) eg SDEC, Theatre Suite, OPD expansion
 - Extended hours for urgent care
 - Additional staff cover e.g. Front of house ED waiting room staff

Health and Social Care Plans 2

- Protect Elective Surgery
 - Sustained progress in meeting national targets and Covid follow up e.g. achieved planned move of Orthopaedic Elective activity to BAH
 - Focus on cancer and patient waiting times
 - Range of initiatives to maintain and improve performance
- Effective and safe discharge
 - Partners working together to increase capacity in social care and developing services with providers
 - Additional Social Work staff to support discharge
 - Following national 100 Day Challenge initiatives
 - Investment in transport, pharmacy, Discharge Management Team

Avoiding admissions and Community Support

- Avoiding admissions
 - Direct liaison with North East Ambulance Service, LADB and Other Acute and Mental Health Providers
 - Cold Weather plan agreed using national guidance and community risk register coordinated through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF)
 - Flu and Covid vaccination programmes
 - 2 hour Urgent Community Response Service in place
 - Continuing admissions avoidance initiatives in care homes
- Community support
 - Financial help on fuel poverty, welfare rights, home energy efficiency
 - Warms spaces 200 planned for County Durham
 - Voluntary sector funding to support communities
 - Continued Public Health measures such as masks, hand sanitiser
 - Consistent communication about help available, self care, access to services close to home

Key Risks

- Demand growth beyond model
- Workforce availability
- Industrial Action
- Public expectation of the NHS

Summary

- Partners working together to prepare for winter
- Currently in a period of sustained demand and Public Health projections suggest future challenges
- Additional investment across partners including the NHS, social care and in support for communities
- Important that all of the system is working well and working together
- Questions welcome