

Winter Planning Arrangements

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Better for everyone



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

