

## **DELAYED DISCHARGE – POSITION AT 15 JUNE 2007**

### **1. Introduction**

The purpose of the paper is to indicate the delayed discharge position at 15 June 2007 and to put that in the context of the target set for delayed discharges to be achieved by 15 April 2008.

### **2. Current Delayed Discharge Position**

Performance on delayed discharges is measured on the basis of numbers of delayed discharges in short stay beds and those waiting over six weeks. There are seven patients in short stay beds (against a target of nil) with twenty-six over six weeks (similarly against a target of nil). There are a further fifty-four patients (of which five are in short stay beds) who are in the health system but are currently under six weeks. Those patients are undergoing their community care assessment. Details are provided in the attachment. There has been a significant increase in the number of patients over six weeks. This reflects increased numbers of patients going through the system. The circumstances behind that increase are currently being examined.

The most recent national quarterly census was undertaken on 15 April 2007. This showed that the total number of delayed discharges in Lanarkshire hospitals compared favourably to hospitals in other NHS Board areas. Table 4, taken from the ISD report on patients ready for discharge in NHS Scotland indicated that there were 41 patients delayed in Lanarkshire compared to a Scotland wide figure of 755 – the third lowest of the mainland NHS Boards in Scotland. Whilst Lanarkshire achieved its target for patients delayed over six weeks as set out in HEAT, the ISD report does not rank performance for NHS Boards against targets so this is unable to be placed in context. However actual performance in this category was 6 patients waiting more than six weeks. This represents the second best performing mainland NHS Board.

### **3. Multi Agency Review of Delayed Discharges**

The multi agency review of delayed discharges, initiated by the Lanarkshire Partnership, is complete and the review findings are currently being finalised. This followed a multi agency event with staff from each agency involved directly in service delivery. The draft report will be considered by the Central Monitoring Group at its meeting in June 2007 following which, if supported, it will be presented to the NHS Board and North and South Lanarkshire Councils in June 2007.

#### **4. Future Delayed Discharge Targets**

The target for delayed discharges in 2007/08 is that there should be no delayed discharges in short-stay beds and no delayed discharges over six weeks by 15 April 2008. The Scottish Executive has indicated its intention over the next month to discuss further the detail and implications of the proposed targets with NHS Boards.

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