

Briefing Note

Title: Red Bag Project Evaluation Session

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Commissioning Officer

Date: 20 June 2018

Intended audience: Internal Partner organisation Public Confidential

Purpose or recommendation

To provide an overview of the Red Bag Project and highlight the findings of a snapshot evaluation of the project to date.

Background

The City of Wolverhampton Council People Commissioning team, wrote a successful business case and received funding from the CCG, through the A&E Board, to implement the Red Bag Project Wolverhampton.

The project was initiated in September 2017 and was launched 31st October 2017. Delivery commenced in December 2017 with partner representation from the:

- CCG
- Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
- West Midlands Ambulance Service
- Care Home Reps

The Red Bag Project was based on the Sutton Vanguard project, which was a successful pilot implemented in Sutton (London). The project supports the implementation of NICE Guidance 27 for Safe Transfer of Care. It has been implemented in a small number of areas nationally, but we are not aware of local schemes.

The project aims are:

- Safe, efficient, and effective transition between inpatient hospital settings and community or care home settings, for adults with social care.
- Reduced length of stay in hospital.
- Targeted care and support through improved communication

This is largely achieved through the implementation of standardised paperwork and the use of the Red Bag to collate the paperwork with any personal belongings. The bag is kept with the patient at all times.

The project commenced due to:

- Poor communication
- Loss of personal belongings
- Inefficient use of staff time chasing documents, toiletries, and belongings
- Delays in treating patients due to lack of supporting care information
- Improving outcomes and delivering person centred support

Local Implementation

Wolverhampton were able to employ a part time project officer to support the implementation of bags in care home settings which was part of the original business case.

The team initially targeted 62 care homes, however 5 care homes were unable to participate due to staff, head office or internal staff challenges.

Project Status

- 55 care homes are using Red Bags for admissions
- 25 of the engaged homes have implemented the project for all residents in their home
- Care homes were asked to pilot the bags based on minimum 10% occupancy.
- 9 care homes are currently unable to participate. The team will continue to engage with all care homes.
- Participating homes have received education sessions and support on implementing the Red Bag
- 11 homes in Phase 1 received End of Life Care Advance Care Plan Training from CCG

Early indicators of the project

Early indicators of the project based on 16 care homes:

- 57% (9) of the homes had reduction or no increase in attendances to A & E
- 50% (8) of the homes had reduction or no increase in admissions to hospital
- 64% (10) of the homes saw length of stay reduce by up to 3 days
(Compared to 18 months relevant data. Based on care homes using bags from Dec 17 or January 18)

Phase 1 homes who have been using bags longest reflected:

71% reduction in attendances and 57% reduction in admissions (7 care homes)

These overall figures are based on 16 homes who started using Red Bags in Dec 17 and Jan 18, and is data compared to an average over the previous seven quarters. There are seven Phase 1 homes which started working on the project in November and recorded uses of bags began in December.

West Midlands Ambulance data suggests that the comprehensive paperwork has led to a reduction in conveyances to hospital.

- Conveyance rates have decreased by 33% (186 to 125)
- Calls to Ambulance Service have decreased from (28%) 281 to 201

Data from West Midlands Ambulance Service for 16 care homes using the Red Bag from Dec 17 to Feb 18 - Direct comparison from the same period last year.

Wolverhampton has exceeded the Sutton Pilot – please see PowerPoint slides for further information. We are currently working on bed day cost.

The commissioning team have successfully obtained qualitative feedback from all key stakeholders and compiled a video to play as part of the evaluation.

Early indicators highlight the success of the project when the paperwork and bag are used. The project echoes the positive findings from the original Sutton Vanguard pilot.

Best practice

The NHS patient collaborative has approached Wolverhampton to share the good practice with other authorities.

The project is now mandatory for all Better Care Fund workstreams across the country with an implementation date of March 2019.

Next Steps

- The commissioning team will continue working with care homes to implement the project across the City.
- The team will continue to monitor and obtain feedback to embed the project.
- The project will comply to the Better Care Fund requirements.
- A further evaluation will take place next year to analyse the impact after 12 months.

Attachments:

PowerPoint slides

Link to website on WIN for further information

[Wolverhampton Red Bag Project - public information](#)

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