

# Stakeholder Brief

*Special Edition*

June 2011

## Review of rehabilitation and stroke services

### Background

In 2010 NHS Worcestershire completed a commissioning review of rehabilitation and stroke services across the county. The review concluded that patient care and outcomes would be improved by changing the way the services were delivered - providing a range of services closer to home that would meet patient needs in a more suitable setting.

Efforts were focused on developing services for Worcester City and Droitwich, neither of which have community hospitals or had sufficient resources to provide care close to home.

Working in partnership with both Worcestershire County Council and Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, NHS Worcestershire's plan involves developing a range of high quality services providing integrated health and social care capable of meeting the nursing and rehabilitation needs of patients from Worcester, Droitwich and Ombersley. From the 1st August 2011, these new community resources will replace the rehabilitation services currently provided at the Aconbury Unit at Worcestershire Royal Hospital.

Developing a range of different community services will ensure that older people receive the best care in the most appropriate setting – best suited to their needs - ensuring that they return home as soon as possible and continue to receive the care and support they need to remain as independent as possible.

NHS Worcestershire undertook extensive engagement work with a range of stakeholders, including patients and local GPs, to review the current services. Feedback received from patients and their families, via compliments and complaints, were reviewed and several engagement sessions

were held with patients and members of the public to share developments and ask for feedback on the future plans. In addition, ongoing discussions with members of Worcestershire County Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee have taken place, providing local councillors with the opportunity to review and contribute to the proposals. The project is now being led through South Worcestershire GP Commissioning Consortium.



## The new services

The new services are specifically designed to improve patient care and outcomes in Worcester, Droitwich and Ombersley by providing care and rehabilitation in the community rather than in an acute hospital setting. The services include:

### Timberdine Nursing and Rehabilitation Unit

A dedicated unit with 36 beds providing nursing care, residential care and rehabilitation for patients who continue to need 24 hour care and rehabilitation following an admission to the acute hospital.

Eight of those beds will form a stroke specialist rehabilitation unit, providing specialist care for patients following a stroke, supporting their recovery and creating maximum opportunity to regain independence.

### Hospital at Home Service

The Hospital at Home Service will offer patients who previously would have been admitted to hospital the opportunity to receive nursing care, treatment and rehabilitation at home, with the support of a carer through the day and night.

### Step down beds

Beds in nursing and residential care homes will be available for patients who have received rehabilitation, and who are awaiting a care home placement.

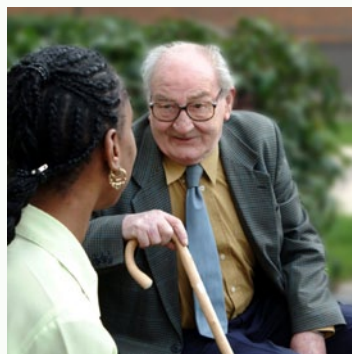
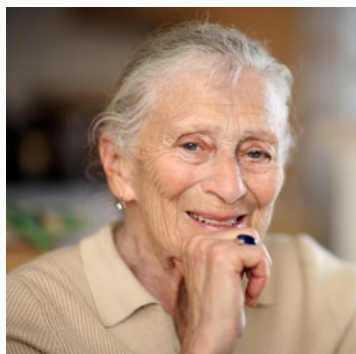
## Additional capacity for Community Services

Extra capacity for the Intermediate Care Team and the Community Stroke Rehabilitation Service will allow for more people who no longer require 24 hour nursing care to benefit from specialist assessment and rehabilitation safely within their own home.

As part of this development, intermediate care that was being provided by Timberdine Resource Centre will instead be made available in Howbury in Malvern, and the Grange in Kidderminster, while a number of additional respite care beds will be made available from a range of residential homes across Worcestershire.

## Timeline

- Hospital at Homes Service is available now to patients from Worcester, Droitwich and Ombersley
- Step down beds available across Worcestershire from the 1st June 2011
- Patients to start transferring from Aconbury wards to Timberdine in late July 2011
- All patients transferred from Aconbury to Timberdine by 1st August 2011
- Additional staff recruited to Community Services by 1st August 2011.



For more information on any of the information within this brief please contact [communications@worcestershire.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@worcestershire.nhs.uk)