



CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

Winter Plan

Report by Chief Officer, Health and Social Care

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the Joint Board on the content of the Winter Plan.

COMPETENCE

2. The matters arising in the report have no immediate legal or HR implications. Specific funding has been made available from the Scottish Government to support winter pressures.

SUMMARY

3. The development of our plan has been overseen by our Integrated Corporate Management Team, co-chaired by the Chief Executives of the Health Board and the Local Authority.

| Action | Cost | Impact |
|--|---------|---|
| Operationalise 27 contingency beds | £61,771 | This will ensure that the hospital functions at maximum capacity, should this be required, and help us to meet increased levels of need |
| Option to Divert Respite Care Capacity | Neutral | This will involve cancelling planned respite and utilising the additional capacity to meet increased demand for social care, alleviating pressure on the Western Isles Hospital |
| Coordination of resources | Neutral | Escalation policies for acute and community resources are aligned and senior management available throughout the festive and winter period to implement decisions |
| Discharge Planning | Neutral | Additional MDT Discharge meetings planned along with a daily afternoon huddle to anticipate and respond to winter pressures. This complements the morning huddle where any potential issues with discharge are identified |

4. Our Winter Plan indicates that we have 27 contingency beds within the Western Isles capable of being used beyond normal operating arrangements, including 4 in the Uist and Barra Hospital. These beds are staffed via the local bank arrangements. We take a proactive approach to the management of bank with planning across short and medium-term intervals. Requests for bank staff are considered by the hospital manager and Health Board Executives. We have also developed flexible staffing plans to enable the rapid deployment of available surge capacity – this goes beyond core medical and nursing staff to include AHPs and other health professionals. In respect of discharge, the social care system is in principle able to receive discharges at any point of the year, although as noted in previous correspondence we are working through significant staffing challenges. We are focused on maximising discharge potential ahead of the festive period. Duty social work is available at all times over the winter and the Care at Home service and Out of Hours duty cover operates as normal during holiday periods with no reduction in service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. It is recommended that the IJB notes the report.

Ron Culley,
Chief Officer, CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE





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