

In accordance with Standing Order 28, Mr Phil Eaton (Swindon Resident) submitted written questions.

Question:

1. What are the plans to reduce/completely remove the need for privately funded beds via external companies and bring PQ beds completely in-house?

Response

AWPs bed base is commissioned by the relevant CCGs including Swindon CCG. Activity and demand for beds across the Trust are monitored regularly. It is hoped that the current bed base of PICU, older adults, and acute adults of working age is sufficient to meet the needs of people. It is very rare for Swindon Service Users to be sent out of the Trust footprint to access a bed. Bed management in Swindon is robust, however at times there is a high level of demand as a result of a high level of acuity resulting in bed saturation. There are no current plans to increase the bed base of PICU, and this would require further discussion with all CCGs.

Question:

2. What are the plans to improve council/support housing to enhance and develop the independent recovery process (includes the profile of social worker support as well as facilities themselves). A strong example is Canal House on Albion Street in Swindon, poorly (wo)manned and poorly maintained. I'm sure statistics exist on 'Delayed Transfer of Care' and this is all intertwined with the private bed issue. I've asked about this area before and now I feel it's time to dig deep and share the transparency of this analysis and actions being taken.

Response:

Swindon Borough Council has recently recommissioned Supported Housing for people with mental health needs and we are now working with the new providers who are due to commence services from the 1st of April 2018. The recommissioning process was carried out in partnership with AWP and the Swindon CCG and is evident of the strong working relationship between these organisations to support vulnerable people to achieve greater independence.

Canal House provides accommodation and support for up to seven people. During 2017, the service provided support to eleven people with four people being supported to move into their own home. Canal House support clients through

personalised support plans integrating use of the Outcomes Star, a tool for measuring the level of independence achieved. These assessments are carried out between the support worker and client and provides evidence of the positive journey the client is taking to achieve greater independence. Canal House has demonstrated through these assessments of the positive support offered to clients in supporting them on this journey. SBC continue to work with providers to develop and enhance the quality of services delivered and will be undertaking a review of the buildings during the course of the contract to work with providers on ensuring these are fit for purpose going forward.