

Short-term care home beds

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at ndht.pals@nhs.net.

What are short-term care home beds?

We want to support people to be discharged from hospital as soon as they are medically ready. This is because we know that hospitals are not the best place for recovery and rehabilitation. All of these factors can make recovery in hospital more difficult:

- Unfamiliar surroundings
- Fewer reasons and opportunities to be mobile
- More difficulty sleeping

We also know that going home can sometimes be worrying. You may feel you need a bit more support before you are ready, or the health and social care team may need more time to arrange support at home.

Short-term care home beds can provide further care and support before you return home. We aim for this to be short-term, so that you can continue your recovery at home and in familiar surroundings as quickly as possible.

Are there different kinds of beds?

There are two types of short-term care home beds.

A reablement bed in a residential care home

Sometimes you may need further reablement before you can safely return home from hospital. A reablement bed is a short-term bed in a care home with in-reach support from the community therapists.

A care hotel bed in a residential care home

Sometimes there may be a delay arranging the level of care needed for you to return home. This can be due to difficulties sourcing a package of care for you with a care agency.

Being discharged to a care hotel bed in a residential home means you can leave hospital and avoid the factors that make your recovery in hospital more difficult, whilst ensuring that you receive the level of care and support needed. We call it a care hotel bed because these patients can be supported by the residential care home staff and don't require enhanced support from visiting community therapists (reablement bed).

This also enables another patient who needs medical care to be admitted to the hospital bed.

Where are the short-term care home beds?

The short-term care home beds are in different residential care homes.

How long will I stay in a short-term care home bed?

This depends on your individual needs. The average is two weeks. We will aim to get you home as soon as possible.

Will I need to pay for my stay?

There is no cost for you in short-term care homes beds (care hotel beds and reablement beds), until the point of a social care assessment for your ongoing care needs. After this you may need to pay a financial contribution.

Who can use a short-term care home bed?

These are for patients:

- Who are planning to return home
- Where the clinical team has agreed that a short-term care home bed is appropriate
- Who have given consent to be discharged to either a care hotel bed or reablement bed

What is the process for returning home?

Whilst you are in a short-term care home bed, either the therapist or social care assessor will work with you to arrange the support you need for your return home.

Further information

Devon County Council Adult Care and Health

Email: adultsocialcare.hospitalsocialcareteamnorth@devon.gov.uk

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Care Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at www.careopinion.org.uk.

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