

# The Route to Health Improvement

## Notable Practice Case Study

<b>This practice relates to one (or more) of the below key features :</b>				
Corporate Culture	Policy Development X	Collaboration	Capacity Building	Governance

### **Background & Context:**

Following engagement with the LHB, around the Clinical Futures proposals for a new model of care, it became apparent that the whole local health strategy is predicated upon there being sufficient Out of Hospital (level 1) services to both:

- Facilitate early discharge (and therefore create more hospital capacity through reduced Average Length of Stay) and
- Prevent a significant proportion of existing hospital admissions

Many of the services required to achieve this are themselves dependent upon the underlying social care infrastructure.

### **Description & Characteristics:**

The Clinical Futures Project Board appointed RKW – a firm of health economists – to prepare data sets and build a model to quantify the capacity needed in health services to deliver the Clinical Futures model of care. As a separate commission (but working through a joint LHB/Council project structure), Social Care and Housing engaged the same consultants to assess the impact for care services, within a context of significant population change.

The COTE (Care of the Elderly) Planning Tool is the outcome.

### **Why was/is this initiative/approach successful?**

Initially, the expectation was that the Clinical Futures model would generate additional demand for specific care services, and the work that Social Care and Housing commissioned was seen initially as a basis to better understand the necessary resource transfers between Health and Local Government. In practice, the implications of demographic change dwarf these, and the Council now has a powerful modelling tool to assist in medium term service planning and policy development.

## Measures of Success:

This is work in progress, but the value of the initiative is in:

- Cross referencing social care financial and physical capacity within Outline Business Case submissions for health capital funds;
- Jointly held planning assumptions and data sets for Older Persons services;
- A renewed focus on the financial significance of delayed transfers of care and average length of stay.
- Modelling will inform Joint Health & Social Care Commissioning Strategy during 2007.

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