

Relatives' Information

Dear Relative/Advocate

The National Framework for Enhanced Health in Care Homes was introduced on 1st October 2020 as part of the NHS Long Term Plan. It is intended to provide additional support to people residing in care homes. An Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) Team, which includes clinical and non-clinical staff, has been established in Southport and Formby to implement the framework in supporting the health and wellbeing of residents in care homes and to coordinate appropriate support services.

Health and social care systems are moving away from reactive models of care, which simply respond to problems as they arise, to proactive models that deliver coordinated and individual needs-led assessment and support both for residents and those who work in the care home environment.

We aim to work proactively and collaboratively with you and your relative, their care workers, and a range of other health and social care professionals to ensure that your relative's individual needs and preferences are respected and met.

What the team does:

In discussion with you, and your relative, we formulate care plans and signpost to appropriate services to facilitate effective problem solving. When needed, with consent, our team will discuss your relative's needs via a wider Multi-Disciplinary Team meeting(s). These meetings include various healthcare professionals, who will provide additional support and guidance in a timely manner to your relative.

This is achieved through:

- Review of individual needs in conjunction with families and carers
- Multidisciplinary team meetings
- Implementation and review of care plans
- Formulation of proactive care plans (including Comprehensive Assessment)
- Liaison with GP practices and collaboration with wider services

Our team will arrange a comprehensive assessment which will highlight whether other health professional input is required. This may include dental, optometry, own GP, physiotherapy, occupational therapy specialities and will be discussed during the assessment.

We will then complete the care plan, a formal document, which is shared by our team with you, your relative, your relative's own GP, and the care home provider. This will highlight your relative's wishes, in a clear format, and will embrace appropriate discussions around treatment escalation. This means everyone is aware and can prioritise your relative's wishes. We welcome questions during the discussion process or after the assessment. Our team will endeavour to help wherever we can.

We would welcome your input.

Yours faithfully

The Enhanced Health in Care Homes Team