



Committee Report

Report LTCR-CC-04-18

To: Warden Halliday and Members of Grey County Council
From: Lynne Johnson, Director of Long Term Care
Meeting Date: December 14, 2017
Subject: **Response to Long Term Care Proposal- D. Patey**
Status: Recommendation adopted by Council as presented per Resolution CC08-18;

Recommendation

That Report LTCR-CC-04-18 regarding the Long Term Care Proposal from Mr. D. Patey be received;

And that a letter be sent to Mr. D. Patey in response to his proposal.

Background

The proposal from Mr. D. Patey was received by the Long Term Care Committee of Management on November 9, 2017. The concepts contained within the proposal were reviewed and discussed.

Staff were requested by the Committee of Management to obtain additional information from the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) regarding the potential of obtaining “new” beds for the Behavioural Support Transitional Unit (BSTU) rather than the re classification of existing long term care beds for the creation of the BSTU. Staff were also directed to ask whether consideration would be given to locating the BSTU in Markdale.

Behavioural Support Transitional Unit Program

Initiation

The process for consideration as a site for a designated BSTU was led by the LHIN and initiated in 2015 when Long Term Care Homes were invited to submit an expression of interest. The Grey-Bruce region was highlighted as a desired area for these specialized beds. In recognition of the increased need for this type of care, staff submitted an expression of interest to further explore the possibilities.

An Advisory Group was established by the LHIN and included a wide range of health system partners including representatives from the community and long term care sectors, Grey Bruce Health Services and the Southwestern Ontario Regional Psychogeriatric Program. In the winter of 2016, the Advisory Group reviewed the submissions, completed site tours and conducted interviews with the interdisciplinary teams at Lee Manor and Grey Gables. The Advisory Group

made a recommendation to the LHIN Board of Directors and in the spring of 2016, we were informed that Lee Manor was approved for the development of a BSTU. The decision was based on a number of factors including the proximity to mental health programs at the Owen Sound hospital and the availability of a critical mass of staff to work in the specialized unit at Lee Manor.

Current Status

Meetings have been ongoing with the LHIN and system partners for many months to design the model and complete the application for designation of a BSTU at Lee Manor. The plan has evolved and been refined as we have worked through the process.

At a meeting held at the end of October, it was identified by the LHIN that the BSTU will be a 2-year pilot project. LHIN staff also indicated a concern with the temporary loss of 14 long term care beds (beds in abeyance). There is no capacity in the existing LTC homes in the region to relocate the beds for the duration of a 2 year pilot project and the loss of the beds to the system would affect patient flow.

With this new information the team (LHIN and County staff) had to step back, reevaluate the situation and consider the impact of the new information.

Subsequent Information

On November 15th, staff spoke with the LHIN and the LHIN confirmed:

- There remains a commitment, need and desire to proceed with a BSTU;
- Lee Manor is the approved site for a BSTU;
- The BSTU will be developed using existing long term care beds;
- Concerns have been raised about the ability to place beds in abeyance and that further work needs to be completed on the proposed model.

Patey Proposal

The proposal from Mr. Patey is based on a number of factors including geographical zones that he has developed along with projections of bed deficiencies. This information is inconsistent with planning information being used by the Ministry and LHIN.

The SWLHIN is responsible for Health System Planning. In the case of long term care, this means they look at all factors including the location of private and municipal long term care homes. All long term care homes in Ontario receive provincial funding and are required to follow the same legislative requirements and provide the same level of care and service at a fee that is set by the province. Admissions are not and cannot be restricted to a geographical region and, we find in each of our homes, residents come from a large geographical area.

The financial projections provided by the Grey County finance department have been developed based on past experience, future projections and in consultation with other organizations. Additionally, the plan used conservative estimates and projections.

The development of the BSTU is a 2-year pilot project and includes the reclassification of current beds (therefore there will be no new licenses for additional beds). This impacts the previous recommendation from staff regarding placing beds in abeyance.

Mr. Patey also references approaching the ministry for additional beds for Grey Gables. The province recently announced the addition of 5,000 new long term care beds. No details have been provided on the timeline or process for applying for additional beds. If desired, County Council could direct the Committee of Management to explore this option further.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/Information Technology Considerations

The application for the BSTU has gone through several reviews. Recent notification that the BSTU will be a 2-year pilot project and the challenge of putting beds in abeyance have recently come to light requiring the plan to be refined.

Staff have started to review an integrated approach which eliminates the need to reduce beds. This will reduce the pressure on wait lists within the region and reduces the future impact if the pilot project is not extended or made a permanent program. Until the application is submitted and a decision received from the province, we will not know if the BSTU will move ahead. As new information comes forward from the province and LHIN, it will be provided to the Committee of Management for consideration.

Health system planning needs to consider the cumulative effect, balance a number of different providers needs and consider the long term impact. The Province and LHINs are responsible for health system planning and Grey County is only one of the many stakeholders in the process.

The purpose of amalgamation was to provide an opportunity to attain operational savings, improve the ability of the county to meet the needs of residents with higher care needs, better position the county to provide care into the future, increase the options for services in south Grey and provide additional full-time and more stable part time jobs. If County Council wishes to pursue additional long term care beds, direction should be given to the Committee of Management to explore the option.

A letter will be sent to Mr. Patey on behalf of the Committee of Management in response to his proposal.

Link to Strategic Goals/Priorities

Goal 3- Deliver Excellence in Governance and Service

The objective of amalgamation was to create a single larger long term care home that was able to deliver services to an increasingly complex population and provide more full-time and stable part-time jobs in an environment that was more efficient and cost effective to operate.

Attachments and Background Information

None

Respectfully submitted by,
Lynne Johnson,
Director of Long Term Care