

**Discharge to Recover and Assess
Arrangements for step-down support and associated financial charging**

1. There are three key types of step-down support offered in Care Homes:

a. Short term Reablement

Where reablement in a 24/7 care setting has the potential to improve confidence and skills and reduce the need for ongoing care beyond an initial period of support

When an individual is identified in hospital as having a need for reablement that is best met within a care home setting, they will be offered a placement with reablement support at no charge up to a maximum of 6 weeks. During that time, at least one review will be undertaken to establish that reablement remains a realistic option for that individual. At or before 6 weeks, the individual will either return home or be progressed to a setting that is assessed to be appropriate to their longer term needs within the aligned charging framework.

b. Short term Recovery

Where reablement in a 24/7 care setting is not likely to change the need for ongoing care, however a period of recovery outside of a hospital setting is considered likely to provide a more appropriate opportunity to assess the level and type of longer term needs

When an individual is identified in hospital as having potential to present with a lower level of long term need after a period of recovery, a step down placement will be provided at domiciliary care rate for up to 8 weeks with a review taking place around 2 weeks. At or before 8 weeks, the individual will either return home or progressed to a setting that is assessed to be appropriate to their longer term needs within the aligned charging framework

c. Short term Support

Where a reablement package of care in the person's own home is the assessed level of need, however it is not possible to source a package of care at pace and therefore, the individual is supported to move out of a hospital environment into a placement whilst their care package continues to be sourced.

Where an individual is placed temporarily within a step down bed in lieu of a reablement Package of Care being available and no reablement focussed provision is available in the care home, the individual will be charged at domiciliary care rate and then receive up to 6 weeks reablement support when they return home.

Date: 3 December 2024