



Committee Report

To:	Chair and Members of the Committee of Management
Committee Date:	March 10, 2020
Subject / Report No:	LTCR-CM-11-20
Title:	Behavioural Support Transition Unit Update
Prepared by:	Jennifer Cornell, Director of Long Term Care
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	All Grey County
Status:	

Recommendation

- 1. That report LTCR-CM-11-20 regarding a Behavioural Support Transition Unit Application for Grey Gables be received; and**
- 2. That staff be directed to proceed with the proposal submission, within the allocated funding from the South West Local Health Integrated Network, for the creation and operation of a Behavioural Support Transitional Unit.**

Executive Summary

A Behavioural Support Transition Unit (BSTU) is specialized long term care home area for residents with significant responsive behaviours, where staff and community partners work as part of an integrated team. The team will assess, treat and develop personalized care plans to assist each resident to live life in a manner that is meaningful for them while providing families and caregivers with tools and resources to support a successful transition/discharge to a regular LTC home area.

An earlier application for a 20-bed BSTU at Lee Manor was withdrawn when operational issues could not be overcome. The Province and the SWLHIN subsequently approached Grey County to consider an application for a 20-bed BSTU at Grey Gables.

Background and Discussion

The purpose of a transitional unit is to provide support for individuals whose behaviours are unmanageable in their current setting.

Residents who are identified for consideration for the BSTU may currently be residing in a Long-Term Care home, other residential setting, or in a Schedule 1, Acute Care or Tertiary Care hospital environment. Regardless of where they live, these individuals will be exhibiting or are at risk of exhibiting heightened responsive behaviours that cannot be managed in their current environment or require an opportunity for transition to support them in returning to live in their preferred environment.

There are not many Behavioural Support Transitional Units in the province. The LHIN recognized the need for one in Grey County which will support people who require this level of service to access care in an appropriate setting. By having access to the proper programs and services, hospital beds will be available for those who need them, and people will have access to the care and services they require.

Report LTCR-CM-11-18 (March 13, 2018) recommended that the decision to proceed with a Behavioural Support Transition Unit (BSTU) at Lee Manor be rescinded due to information that identified a serious impact on local service delivery and County finances.

Further meetings have occurred with the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and staff conducted additional research on the possibility of an integrated approach. New information had been identified that Grey Gables would be an optimum location for a specialized unit, due to its smaller resident home areas and central location.

The South West LHIN supports the application for designation of 20 long-stay beds for a Behavioural Support Transitional Unit (BSTU) at Grey Gables for the following reasons:

- It offers an opportunity to optimize the quality of life for a portion of people living with Responsive Behaviours.
- From a placement perspective, designating a unit enables access from the community, hospital or regular LTC setting to transitional care and supports that will assist to stabilize the individual's behaviours.
- It offers the availability of enhanced skills, services, and resources in a LTC Home setting to meet the needs of residents living with responsive behaviours.
- It provides a safe option for all residents and staff.
- It demonstrates strong partnerships and integration of services, skills and expertise to successfully meet the needs of the residents.
- It offers a timely opportunity to examine and implement a rural centre of excellence model for behavioural support, including evidenced-based best

practice guidelines for LTC homes in supporting residents with responsive behaviours. Best practice guidelines will offer recommendations for training and education of staff, organization and policy recommendations to help caregivers become familiar with key resources techniques and strategies. By designating one home area as the specialized unit there is no requirement to place beds in abeyance: service delivery will be maintained, and the previous financial concerns related to reducing occupancy have been addressed.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/Information Technology Considerations

The BSTU beds will receive base funding at the same level as the regular long-stay beds. An additional special designation per diem will be provided by the LHIN to enhance staffing levels and supplies and equipment that is necessary to support the specialized population.

Working within an integrated framework and the proposed budget, the home will be able to create a staffing plan that provides consistency of care and enhances the availability of full-time positions within the home.

In addition to annualized funding, one-time funding will be available to offset some start-up capital expenses, building enhancements, security upgrades and outdoor space. One-time funding has been requested for a 12 month Best Practice and Implementation Coordinator. This contract position will include developing best practice guidelines and training and education for staff.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

The process to apply and operate a specialized unit within a long-term care is outlined in *the Long Term Care Homes Act, 2010*. The Act also guides the admission and discharge for placement coordination.

The proposal for approval of a specialized unit is a joint submission to the Ministry of Long-Term Care from the LHIN and County. Several meetings have occurred to clarify and finalize the document which outlines the care delivery approach, admission and discharge planning, human resources and financial plan. The proposal also requests a period of ninety (90) days:

- Prior to the date of designation to finalized operational plans and execute the required contracts and agreements
- From the date of designation, to transition to a fully operational BSTU

Relevant Consultation

- Internal Long Term Care and Finance Staff
- External South West Local Health Integration Network

Appendices and Attachments

None