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Mrs Carlisle heads for Athens

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Mrs Carlisle heads for Athens

Posted on Tuesday 14th October 2014

A pilot project to support older and vulnerable people in Carlisle has been chosen from 200 international schemes to feature in the International Healthy Cities Conference in Greece this month (OCTOBER).

Mrs Carlisle Hospital at Home provided an alternative to hospital admissions by providing the same high quality care in their homes

Marking 25 years of the Healthy Cities movement, the World Health Organisation (WHO) invited the team behind the Mrs Carlisle Hospital at Home pilot to send a presentation to the four day event being held in Athens on October 22-25.

And Mrs Carlisle is joined by Carlisle City Council's Community Neighbour project which was also selected to present at the conference.

The conference offers the opportunity to celebrate and take stock of the collective achievements of Healthy Cities, which are based on the leadership and creativity of hundreds of cities across Europe and around the world.

The Conference offers a platform for political leaders, health professionals and activists to shape their visions for the future and to renew and reinvigorate their commitment to health, sustainable development and the Healthy Cities movement.

The WHO Healthy Cities project is a global movement. About 90 cities are members of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, and 30 national Healthy Cities networks across the WHO European Region have more than 1400 cities and towns as members, including Carlisle.

The Mrs Carlisle Hospital at Home service pilot was launched in September 2013 to provide care at home for up to 15 frail older patients living in the 30 mph zone within the city of Carlisle. These were patients who may have otherwise needed to be admitted to hospital.

A package of care was provided by a multi-agency team was provided from 8am until 7pm seven days a week.

The success of the pilot has now led to the commissioning of the Out of Hospital Care Services by NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Carlisle Locality along with other key partners lead the project to improve the quality of life for 'Mrs Carlisle'.

NHS Cumbria CCG Lead GP for Carlisle, Dr Colin Patterson said: "Mrs Carlisle is a fictitious older person in need of a range of health, Adult Social Care, housing, third sector services and community support over an extended period of her life.

"Mrs Carlisle has involved joint working by NHS Cumbria CCG, Cumbria County Council (CCC), Carlisle City Council, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT), North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust (NCUHT), Cumbria Health on Call (CHoC), GPs and the third sector.

"The focus has been on self-care, prevention and support when needed, linking to the Carlisle Healthy city work and the development of an integrated approach across the third sector.

"The underlying premise is that hospital is not the best place for the majority of older people. Also, the majority of people want to stay in their own homes and only wish to be in the hospital system if absolutely necessary. And if they do go into hospital it should be for effective assessment and treatment in line with their needs and an appropriately supported return to independence rather than a prolonged decline towards dependence."

More patients were cared for through the pilot, and recovered quicker than expected. Now the Out of Hospital

Care services are offering the same care to people aged 18-plus living within Carlisle, Longtown and Brampton 24hours a day, seven days a week.

To enable the expansion of the service all resources from Step Up , Step Down unit at Reiver House in Carlisle, have been transferred to the Out of Hospital Care services.

A video presentation about Mrs Carlisle Hospital at Home will be shown at the WHO Conference and is also available to view on NHS Cumbria CCG's YouTube channel via this link http://youtu.be/xGvm2R0VGDY?list=UUj08zYNPoH7K2_MgRwDDOqg

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