

MEDIA RELEASE

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Rutland named best in England for health and social care services

Patients are officially getting a first class service as a result of joint work between Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust and Rutland County Council.

The county was named as the best place in the country in recent government rankings for the way health and social care work together.

The Department of Health and Department for Communities and Local Government drew up the Performance Dashboard for Health and Social Care rankings based on things such as emergency admissions to hospital, length of stay and whether people are delayed when ready to be discharged home.

Rutland was ranked number one out of 152 local authority areas, with Leicestershire 33rd and Leicester City 48th.



LPT nurse Karen Cunningham (left) with social worker Matt Stockdale, overseen by service manager Jane Rankin.

One of the best performing areas for Rutland residents was in the proportion of those aged 65 and over who were still at home 91 days after being discharged from hospital into local authority reablement or rehabilitation services.

Rachel Bilsborough, Director of Community Health Services for Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, said: "We have a very close and constructive relationship with Rutland Social Care. This includes having a joint team of social care and health professionals, who work together to ensure patients leaving hospital have the support they need when they go home."

“This team share office space and report to the same manager, which helps ensure patients get back home to a safe environment in the shortest possible time.

“We look forward to building on our collective success over the years to come, and are delighted that our work has resulted in better outcomes for people who use our services.”

Councillor Richard Clifton, Rutland County Council’s portfolio holder for Health and Social Care, said: “The way that NHS health and council social care services work together has a big impact on the quality of care and support we can provide to those who need it. It’s also crucial if we are to make sure the wider health service can continue to function effectively.

“We’ve been working closely with NHS partners for some time to integrate local health and social care services so that people spend less time in hospital and are supported to carry on living at home as they get older. The improvements that have resulted from this integration are reflected in the Department for Health’s new national rankings and residents can take great pride and reassurance in knowing that Rutland has some of the best health and social care services anywhere in England.”

One beneficiary of the close relationship was David Chappell, who received reablement support at his Ryhall home from the council’s REACH Team following a fall in October 2016.

He said: “I can’t praise the REACH Team enough for what they did for me,” said Mr Chappell. “They gave me reassurance when I was sat in hospital thinking, ‘how am I going to cope at home?’.

“I didn’t want to be stuck there ‘bed-blocking’. REACH build it back up for you and gave me the reassurance I needed. I didn’t even know it all existed before the fall but I actually felt like part of the team and can’t thank them enough for what they did for me.”

For more details on the rankings, see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-performance-metrics-and-ambitions> .

Note to editors

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The Trust serves a population of one million, has a budget in excess of £267 million and employs approximately 5,400 staff. For more information visit www.leicspart.nhs.uk.

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