

# Making informed economic choices about future funding of bed days in a Hospice specialist palliative care unit. (Benson 2015)

## Inputs

### Investment

Increasing specific MDT staff groups to maximise bed days on an Inpatient Unit

### Resources required

› Proposed staff increases :

4 x Band 5 RN's

3 x Band 3 HCA's

1 x Band 2 HCA's

1 x Band 6 Social worker

5 hours increased Band 7 pharmacy input per week

### › Supplies/equipment

Clinical supplies and medication

### › Support services

Proportional increase in costs related to Education, HR, Payroll, IT services

### Total operational costs

Increased costs of £271,982

## The Service

### Purpose of service

› Specialist palliative care inpatient beds- 79% charitably funded

› Patients admitted from home or transferred from hospital

### Improvement opportunity

› To increase bed days by increasing the numbers of nurses who are currently unable to meet demands of patient acuity and dependency when the Inpatient Unit has high occupancy levels

› To respond to increased demand for specialist palliative beds due to local bed closures

› To make service as cost effective as possible.

› To maximise use of other MDT staff who have capacity to meet increased bed days

## Summary of Benefits

### For service users

- › Increased opportunity of bed availability
- › Increased opportunity of accessing specialist palliative care
- › More patients dying in preferred place of care

### For St Peter's Hospice

- › Bed days increased by 679 per annum (↑12%)
- › Potential for 54 more admissions per annum (↑14%)
- › Anticipated admission costs reduced by £556 per stay
- › Decrease in cost per bed day (↓ £42.65)
- › Service running at increased productivity- best use of charitable funds
- › Better use of MDT resources

### For other local services

- › Reduced hospital admissions
- › Increased transfers from hospital
- › Releases intense primary care resources to be used for other patients with less complex needs
- › CCG's get increased patient care for their 21% investment