

High Impact Change Model: Change 1 – Early discharge planning maturity levels

	Not yet established	Plans in place	Established	Mature	Exemplary
Planned	Discharge is not discussed when planning an admission or at the referral stage in the community.	There is an active plan led by senior staff to instigate early discharge planning for all planned admissions.	Joint pre-admission discharge planning is in place in primary care. A discharge plan, including an estimated discharge date (EDD), is started for all planned admissions.	GPs and district nurses lead the discussions about early discharge planning for elective admissions. Discharge planning is business as usual for all staff involved in referrals including community staff such as GPs and district nurses. People know what is going to happen to them and when they will be going home.	Early discharge planning occurs for all planned admissions by an integrated community health and social care team along with the person and their carers as well as other relevant agencies e.g. housing. People have a clear understanding of when their treatment is going to happen, what it will achieve and when they will go home.
Emergency	Discharge planning does not start in A&E (if an admission has been agreed).	There is an active plan led by senior staff to instigate early discharge planning for all emergency admissions.	Emergency admissions have a provisional discharge date set within 48 hours and planning to support discharge begins as early as possible.	Health and social care work with individuals and their families and carers to plan for and deliver EDDs. People at a high risk of admission already have plans in place. People know what is going to happen to them and when they will be going home.	Evidence shows all individuals go home on date agreed on or near admission or there is recorded reason why this didn't happen, and a new date was set.
Red Bag Scheme	The red bag scheme (or appropriate substitute) is not being used.	There is agreement across partners to implement the red bag scheme and a project plan in place.	The red bag scheme is being piloted on at least one ward.	The red bag is business as usual across the system.	Staff understand the red bag scheme well and use it confidently, leading to smoother discharges.