



West Coast District Health Board
Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini



ULTIMATE CARE
ALLEN BRYANT

Update for residents & families/whanau
Thursday 2 July, 2015

Allen Bryant Update

We want to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to ensure the health and welfare of residents from Ultimate Care Allen Bryant. We would like to outline for you our progress to date and our thoughts around planning for the future months ahead.

This past week since we met we have been looking at all aged residential care beds on the West Coast, so we can understand where there might be capacity, and what level of care is offered in those facilities (i.e. rest home, hospital, dementia, disability support services).

At the same time, the owners of Ultimate Care Allen Bryant have been moving ahead with the rehabilitation of the facility. Ultimate Care Group Chief Executive Liza Cox-Hancy has said the company is exploring every avenue to progress a staged rebuild – to allow for faster recovery of beds and to relieve the pressure in the system as a result of this significant event. At this time, the demolition work at the facility is complete and it is now able to dry out. The assessors and insurance company are moving with haste during this drying time to appoint a contractor to commence the rebuild.

We have allocated room at Grey Base Hospital– “the Allen Bryant space”. We have been able to extend the capacity of this space and staff from Allen Bryant are providing care to these residents of Allen Bryant who have relocated to this space.

We are working collaboratively with all of the aged residential care providers on the West Coast. Our challenge is that we must ensure equity of access to residential care beds to everyone requiring our services.

Over the next week we will be meeting with all Allen Bryant residents and their families to ensure we understand the residents’ level of need. Our goal is to keep the most vulnerable and dependent people in the local area. Any prioritisations of people needing aged residential care will only be actioned if a regional area (Greymouth, Reefton or Westport) reaches 100% occupancy.

To do this we may have to move the less vulnerable off the West Coast (i.e. Canterbury) or to a Westport facility. We will talk you through the process of how we assess our residents’ care needs, and specific to your circumstances, what options we are exploring.

We are also working with those Allen Bryant residents and families who have returned to the community to ensure their needs are met with home-based supports, Allied Health (Physio/OT/social work etc) and community nursing.

The DHB is mindful about other people in our community who will need rest home, hospital or dementia level residential care or respite in the coming months. As these people present themselves to us through the health system, we will discuss and assess their needs using the same process we use for Allen Bryant residents, to ensure equity of access.

We understand this is a difficult time for everyone. We are very mindful of making sure decisions are fair, minimise harm, protect the vulnerable, and that the process is transparent. To this end, we are engaging the services of a specialist ethicist. Their role is one whose judgment on ethical decisions and ethical codes can be independently trusted by the whole community. Let us reassure you - we will not be moving any residents without discussing this with you first.

We will provide updates as frequently as we can.

- For questions about Allen Bryant's building progress call Allen Bryant Manager Jill Gillman, 0274 177 763
- For questions about the location of residents, contact Diane Brockbank, Complex Clinical Care Network Manager (CCCN), 03 768 0492
- For questions about funding or travel, please contact Simon Burges-Short, Clinical Manager Social Work, 03 769 7400, extn 2825

Thanks for your patience, and do understand that we are absolutely committed to finding the best solutions for our Allen Bryant folk.

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