

# The One Gloucestershire Way



## Priority Summary:

### Improving care

for people who have had a stroke

### Our ambition

During 2018/19, 1,112 people in Gloucestershire had a stroke. Our ambition is to provide high quality medical care and rehabilitation for people in the right place to ensure they have the best chance of recovery. We also want to work together to identify those at high risk as early as possible to prevent stroke happening in the first place.

## What are we doing?

- When a patient has a stroke they receive acute stroke care at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, where they are assessed in the emergency department for thrombolysis (clot busting treatment) and referred to Southmead Hospital in Bristol for more specialist care if necessary. The stroke service is staffed by consultants, specialist nurses and specialist therapists, ensuring the best possible treatment is given at the earliest opportunity.
- A specialist community stroke rehabilitation unit opened in Vale Community Hospital, Dursley, in February 2019. Patients receive care from specialist therapists and nurses to support their recovery and adapt to life after a stroke. So far around 70 people have benefited from the unit, with more than 80% being able to return home after their period of intensive rehabilitation.
- When patients no longer need hospital care, the Early Supported Discharge team can provide specialist nursing and therapy support in the home. This allows them to work with patients on things specific to their needs.

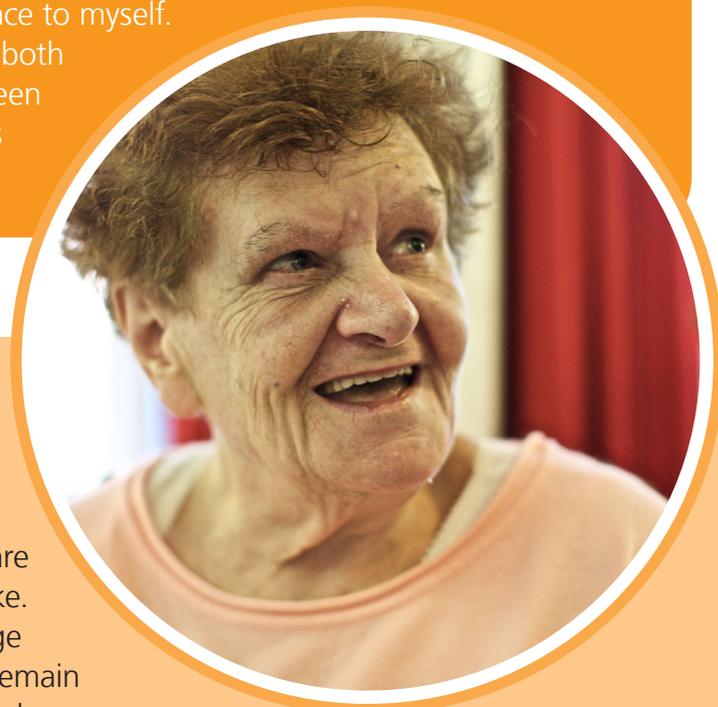
### Case Study

The Vale stroke rehabilitation beds aim to provide intensive and specialist therapy to help people recover enough to live well at home.

**One of the unit's patients, Sabrina, said:**

"I was so relieved to have my own room with a bathroom. Now I'm feeling stronger and am able to get myself out of bed into a standing position with the help of a walking stick, I really appreciate the independence of having this space to myself.

The daily routine of therapy support, including both physiotherapy and occupational therapy, has been great too. The care is personalised to my needs and the therapists are incredibly supportive."



### What next?

We want to continue to provide the best quality care for people in Gloucestershire who have had a stroke. We will be reviewing the Early Supported Discharge service and the rehabilitation beds to ensure they remain at the forefront of stroke care. Our approach to stroke care, based on national evidence, provides the right care in the right place for patients, supporting them to maintain as much independence as possible.