

## HEALTH AND SPORT COMMITTEE

### PRE-BUDGET SCRUTINY 2020-21

#### SUBMISSION FROM WEST LOTHIAN INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

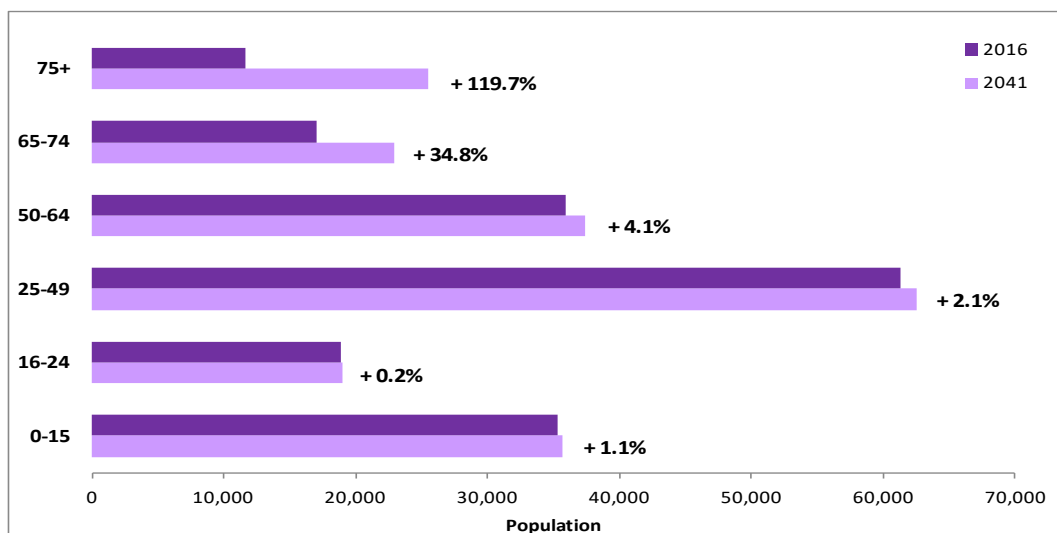
### Introduction

This paper is submitted by the West Lothian Integration Joint Board in support of evidence to be presented at the meeting of the Health and Support Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The focus of the submission is specifically on performance data in relation to delayed discharge and unscheduled hospital admissions as outlined in the invitation to attend.

### West Lothian Context

West Lothian faces a growing and ageing population with the rate of growth faster than the Scottish average. Between 1998 and 2018, the population of West Lothian increased by 18.9%. This is the second highest percentage change out of the thirty two council areas in Scotland. Over the same period, Scotland's population rose by 7.1%.

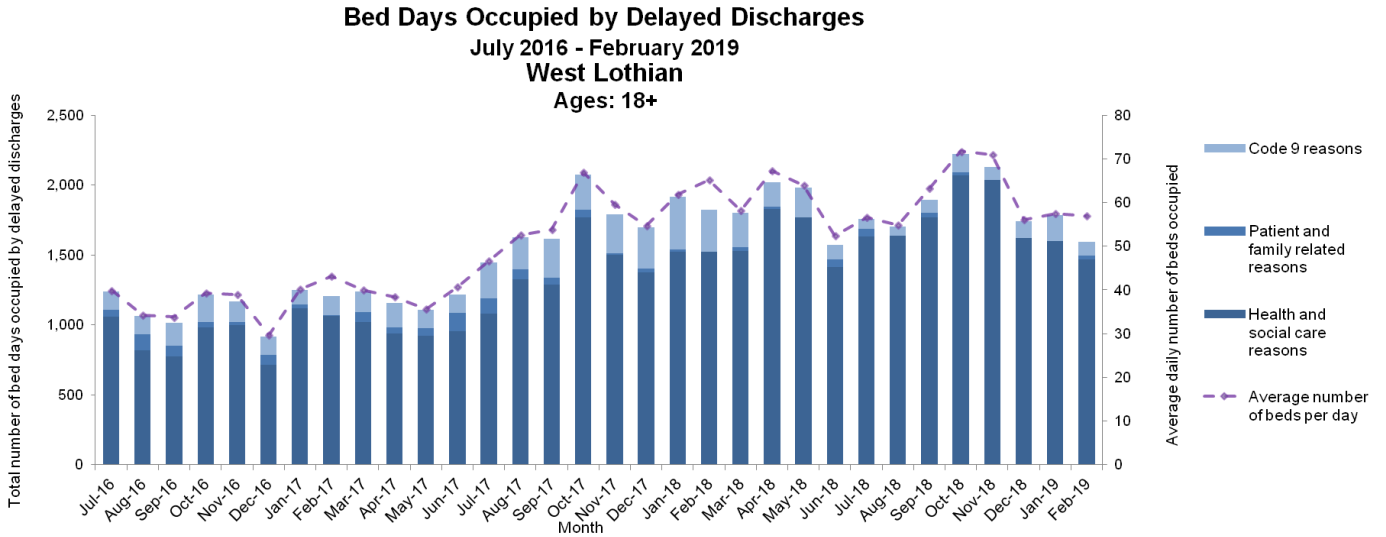
The number of people aged 75 and over in West Lothian is forecast to increase by 120% by 2041 and the number of people aged 65 to 74 by 35%. The level of increase predicted presents significant challenge around future delivery of health and care services for people in the local authority area.



Almost one in four people (23.3%) living in West Lothian report having a limiting long-term physical or mental health condition compared with 19.7% of people in Lothian as a whole. There are significant differences in health outcomes between some communities with an 8-10 year gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas.

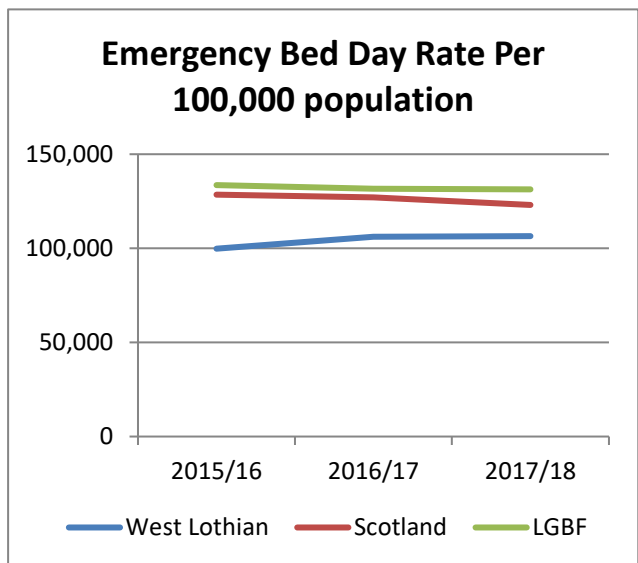
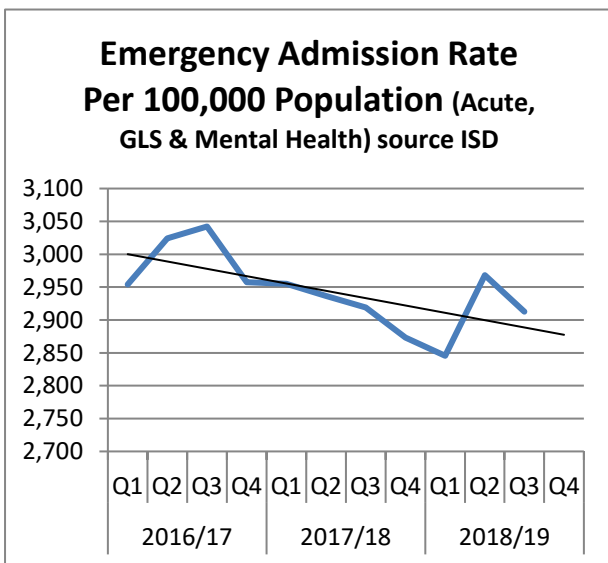
### Delayed Discharge

Bed days occupied by delayed discharge rose significantly 2017 and 2018. There has, however, been an improving trend in relation to delayed discharge in West Lothian since November 2018 as a result of targeted interventions.



### Emergency Admission Rate

There has been an overall reducing trend in the emergency admission rate in West Lothian when considered as a rate per 100,000 of population. The emergency bed day rate in West Lothian is lower than Scotland and lower than benchmarked authorities. Although published data is not yet available for 2018/19, local monitoring shows a similar trend for that period.



## **Challenges and Improvement Activity**

The West Lothian Integration Board approved a new strategic plan for the period 2019 to 2023 in April 2019. The plan will be supported by a revised approach to strategic planning commissioning across the Health and Social Care Partnership with emphasis on whole system improvement and sustainability of future services. The Strategic Plan includes specific focus on frailty and developments around improving patient flow, integrated discharge planning, implementing a home first approach and revising the current approach to intermediate care.

### **Integrated Discharge Hub**

A new integrated discharge hub was established at St John's Hospital in December 2018 with the purpose of enhancing flow throughout the system and improving the delayed discharge position. The hub brings together staff from the hospital, community, social work and Carers of West Lothian in a single location. Early indications are that there has been improvement in discharge planning, removal of unnecessary delays in the system and that patients have been discharged earlier. Impact will continue to be monitored.

### **Care at Home Supply**

There have been significant challenges in West Lothian around securing sufficient supply of care at home services to facilitate timely discharge from hospital. Local care at home providers reported considerable difficulty around staff recruitment and retention for a sustained period of time. However, continued engagement with the sector has resulted in three additional providers working in West Lothian which is now beginning to have a positive impact on the number of hours of care being delivered and on reducing unmet need. A new care at home contract will be in place by September 2019, and is anticipated to assist further with supply through an increased range of providers and through improved arrangements to secure care in difficult to reach areas.

### **Review of Internal Support Services**

Internal systems have been reviewed and improved to ensure quicker processes around service matching and work is now well underway to implement the first phase of the Home First model which will support a 'discharge to assess' approach. Additional investment has been made in the internal reablement service which will create additional capacity.

### **Availability of Care Home Places**

The care home sector in West Lothian operates at full capacity which can impact the length of time people wait for a care home place. Focussed work is being undertaken to increase the proportion of local beds filled by West Lothian residents and improve access.

## **Commissioning Unscheduled Care Services**

A revised planning and commissioning structure includes a specific work stream for improving unscheduled care. The work stream will link closely with work underway to develop and enhance preventative approaches in the community.

## **Conclusion**

There is an improving position in West Lothian around the number of people who have delayed transfers of care. Following targeted interventions to improve performance in this area, early indications show that both the numbers of delays and the length of delay are reducing.

The IJB's new strategic plan places emphasis on early intervention and prevention and will focus on developing community infrastructure to enable people to remain at home where possible and reduce unscheduled admissions to hospital.