Criteria for discharge from the neonatal unit to Paediatric Ward

- Babies are transferred to the Paediatric ward on an individual basis following observation and assessment by a member of medical staff.

Criteria for discharge home

- Ability to maintain temperature in a cot and not requiring monitored neonatal care
- Babies can be discharged home on oxygen and/or for feeds, these are decided on an individual basis

Transition into Primary Care

- Babies discharged home from the neonatal unit with specific paediatric problems will be followed up at home by the paediatric community team. All other babies discharged home from the special care unit are referred to their primary care team (GP/Health visitor) or to Local Social Services. A monthly parent support group is held at the Child Development Centre to support families of babies born within the first 36 weeks or earlier, or below a birth weight of 1.5 kg.

FOLLOW UP

- In the day of discharge either the community midwife and the health visitor (as appropriate) are telephoned to inform them of the discharge of the baby from the neonatal unit.

Long Term Neurodevelopmental Follow up - Network Programme

- Babies born at less than 33 weeks gestation and/or those with a very low birth weight of less than 1500g have a Neonatal Developmental Assessment at a corrected age of 2–3 years.
- Babies born at less than 33 weeks gestation and/or those with a very low birth weight of less than 1500g have a current developmental assessment at a corrected age of 2–3 years.

Tobacco Free for Paediatric Ward

- Referral criteria
  - Age < 3 years
  - Symptomatic growth retardation (< 10th centile)
  - Seizures
  - Severe/malignant hypertension
  - Hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy
  - Antenatal or perinatal infection

Geographical Boundaries

- Staffordshire &the Vale
- Mid Staffordshire
- Hospital
- Mid Cheshire
- Cheshire

Staffing

- 41 hours per week consisting of Band 7 – 30 hours and Band 8a 11 hours per week
- 56 WTE Band 3
- 55 WTE Band 4
- 42 WTE Band 5