

## **Marginal Rate Emergency Rule (MRET) - Investing the Retained Funds**

The marginal rate emergency rule (MRET) was introduced in 2010/11 in response to a growth in emergency admissions in England that could not be explained by population growth and Accident & Emergency (A&E) attendance growth alone. This growth in emergency admissions was made up primarily of emergency spells (a patient's time with the provider from admission to discharge) lasting less than 48 hours.

MRET sets a baseline value for income from emergency admissions for each provider. For emergency admissions above this baseline, the provider receives 70% of the normal price.

The 30% of the value of the emergency admissions above a provider's baseline that is retained by the commissioner must be spent on managing the demand for admitted emergency care.

For planning purposes Harrogate and Rural District CCG has agreed a notional value to be retained from Harrogate & District Foundation Trust in relation to MRET of £671,000 in 2015/16. The exact value will be determined by the level of emergency activity undertaken in 2015-16.

The CCG invests these retained funds in services that will provide an alternative in the community for patients that are at risk of being admitted, or where admitted, to facilitate a prompt discharge. The services that have been developed locally are:

- Community Assessment Team that allows GPs to refer patients for immediate investigation and clinical tests without an admission to hospital.
- FAST Response Team to provide efficient discharge planning and support by community nursing teams.
- Intermediate tier beds as an alternative or step down from hospital admission until the patient is able to live independently.
- Community Stroke Team.