

# ***Joint statement from***



Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals   
NHS Foundation Trust



3 February 2011

## **NHS DONCASTER AND NHS BASSETLAW AGREE CHANGES TO THE CLINICAL SERVICES REVIEW PUBLIC CONSULTATION TIMESCALE**

THE two primary care trusts have agreed further changes to a planned public consultation on some clinical services provided across Doncaster and Bassetlaw to allow enough time to get all the preparatory work completed.

NHS Doncaster and NHS Bassetlaw are jointly managing the programme and had originally planned a 90-day public consultation starting in May this year that would have outlined options for all the services under review. But after discussions with local doctors, the two PCTs now believe it would be better to run the consultation programme in two phases, giving clinicians more time to talk to local people and interested groups before they work up the options they plan to present to the public.

The new timescales are:

A 90 day public consultation starting in May 2011 will consider options for:

- care at Montagu Hospital, Mexborough;
- endoscopic investigations at Montagu Hospital; and
- the acute management of hip fractures.

A 90 day public consultation, provisionally starting in October 2011, will consider options for:

- children's services;
- obstetric and gynaecology services; and
- developing Bassetlaw Hospital.

NHS Bassetlaw's Board members agreed the two phase approach at their monthly meeting on Wednesday 26 January, as did their colleagues at NHS Doncaster at their Board meeting on Thursday 3 February.

More follows.../

Dr Lis Rodgers, medical adviser to NHS Doncaster, said: “The first phase of the consultation will focus on future options for Montagu Hospital, including its role in supporting a potential new rehabilitation service for the area and on endoscopy investigations. We will also present options for the treatment of people living in Doncaster and Bassetlaw who fracture their hip.

“The review is being led by doctors but we are keen to involve local people in developing and agreeing the options for the future that will then be taken out for public consultation.”

To ensure this happens, the two PCTs are organising a series of public engagement events where they will ask local people to prioritise the key issues that are important to them, such as patient safety, affordability, quality of care, accessibility and long-term viability. Anyone interested in taking part is asked to ring NHS Bassetlaw on 01777 863527.

Dr Phil Foster, NHS Bassetlaw’s Medical Director, said: “We have published the two independent reports into local maternity and children’s services and they are both now being carefully considered by the two PCTs and the hospital trust that manages Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Bassetlaw and Montagu hospitals.

“We gave an assurance at publication that we would all take as long as necessary to consider the implications of the two reports, which both concluded that maternity and children’s services were safe but not sustainable. We support the proposal to put back the formal consultation programme for these two services until at least October this year, to allow options for the future to be developed following more local involvement. In addition, we agreed the same approach for the work that is being done on options for developing Bassetlaw Hospital. This includes a proposal for a new Assessment and Treatment Centre that would enable patients to return home faster after an in-patient stay and see more care provided at home or closer to where people live.”

After the two formal consultation phases have been completed all the responses will be analysed to enable the boards of NHS Doncaster and NHS Bassetlaw to reach conclusions and recommendations in 2012.

- Further updates to stakeholders will be issued in due course.

(ends)