

**Update for Overview and Scrutiny Joint Health Committee**

**Out Of Hours Health Services Procurement for Nottinghamshire**

**January 2013**

**Introduction**

In 2011, the then separate PCT Boards for Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City gave approval to initiate the procurement process for Out Of Hours (OOH) services across the region. Agreement was made for a joint collaborative approach between commissioners; following a single procurement process for provision of services for both the north and south of the County.

**Developments impacting procurement**

Existing OOH services are provided by Nottingham Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) in the south of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City, and by Central Nottinghamshire Clinical Services (CNCS) in North Nottinghamshire. Contracts for both providers were due to expire in March 2013.

In April 2012, the joint PCT Cluster Board agreed to extend the existing provider contracts by 12 months to April 2013.

**Recent Progress**

The new services will start from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. The procurement process is ongoing, with potential providers invited to marketing events so that they can develop an understanding of the current health needs and the emerging service specification.

The OOH Procurement Steering Group has continued to progress development of the service specification, which incorporates feedback from the initial public and stakeholder engagement work which took place in 2011/12. Please see embedded copies of the reports from the initial engagement work.



OOH Report final  
Notts South and City



OOH Report  
Engagement Report I

Further engagement with the public and stakeholders is underway and consideration is being given to a number of issues, for example:

- Should the OOH service offer walk in access?
- How should the service be promoted?
- What level of access to medicines on site should be given?
- What are the key staffing skills / attributes / attitudes needed from the OOHs provider?

- Should the OOH service have systems to allow them access to patient records held by other providers e.g. GP practice, secondary care?
- Should the service be located in a hospital or community setting?
- How far is a reasonable distance to the OOHs centre?
- are the National Quality Requirements for GP OOHS services sufficient as performance measures or should additional / alternative standards be procured

A range of focus group sessions have been held for patients and public, and stakeholders are encouraged to provide further feedback on these or any other issues by 8 February 2013.

**Ends/**