

**26 January 2015****Agenda Item: 6**

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **STROKE PATHWAY DEVELOPMENTS**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce a briefing on developments in the stroke pathway.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. In May 2012, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust announced that more patients would be able to receive gold standard stroke treatment closer to home due to the launch of thrombolysis (clot-busting) treatment at Kings Mill Hospital. The service operated from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday (including public holidays). Weekend and out of hours services continued to be provided at Nottingham University Hospital's City Hospital campus.
3. In July 2013, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust indicated that the thrombolysis treatment service for hyper-acute stroke patients at Kings Mill Hospital had been extended to cover Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays overnight, offering a 24 hour provision (with emphasis that the service also covers patients from Newark). The Trust also indicated that on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays patients would continue to be treated in Nottingham. At this time, Philip Bolton, Head of Nursing, stated that "We are delighted to have extended the availability of our thrombolysis service, meaning patients won't need to travel to Nottingham to receive the treatment. Thrombolysis can spare patients from permanent disability and a prolonged length of stay in hospital."
4. On Friday 6 December 2013, stroke patient Mr John Mallalieu experienced lengthy delays in treatment due to breakdowns in communication between the East Midlands Ambulance Service and Kings Mill Hospital. The communication breakdown was based around confusion over the time when the stroke unit closed. Very sadly, Mr Mallalieu died in hospital on 22 December.
5. In August 2014, further to a review of stroke services, the Trust announced that thrombolysis would be available 24 hours a day. There should therefore be no requirement for stroke patients to travel to City Hospital in Nottingham.
6. Elaine Moss, Director of Quality and Governance at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust will attend the Health Scrutiny Committee to brief Members on developments in stroke services and answer questions as necessary.

7. Members may wish to schedule further consideration of these issues.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Receives the briefing and asks questions as necessary
- 2) Schedules further consideration of stroke service development issues.

**Councillor Colleen Harwood**  
**Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 9772826**

## **Background Papers**

Nil

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All