

**16 April 2012****Agenda Item: 5**

## **REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR GED CLARKE**

### **BASSETLAW CLINICAL SERVICES REVIEW UPDATE**

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

1. This report provides Members with an update on work being undertaken by Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust and Doncaster Primary Care Trust which is expected to lead to changes to acute health– hospital - services in North Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire.

#### **Information**

2. The County Council has a statutory duty to receive consultations from NHS Trusts for proposals for substantial variations or developments of local health services.
3. The County Council's Overview and Scrutiny function has a statutory duty to receive consultations from NHS Trusts for proposals for substantial variations or developments of local health services. It provides Members the opportunity to respond to the consultation and to consider:
  - whether as a statutory body the OSC has been properly consulted within the consultation period
  - whether in developing the proposals for service change, the Trust has taken into account the public interest through appropriate patient and public involvement and consultation
  - whether the proposals for change are in the interests of the local health service

4. This report provides Members the opportunity to give consideration to work by Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust (PCT) that could lead the variation/development of acute health services in North Nottinghamshire, prior to the commencement of public consultation.
5. The Health and Wellbeing Standing Committee included a discussion on Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's "Ambitions for the Future" project in its programme of work in December 2009.
6. At that time Members expected to be informed that a public consultation was to be undertaken on the 'Ambitions for the Future' project. The project included four proposals for change which would affect the care provided to patients in Bassetlaw, Doncaster and Mexborough hospitals.
7. As part of the assurance process undertaken prior to the commencement of the consultation it was recommended that the proposed service changes should form part of a wider strategy.
8. At meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Standing Committee on 18 January and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010, Phil Mettam, Director of Commissioning for NHS Bassetlaw informed Members that NHS Bassetlaw and Doncaster PCT would be taking forward recommendations from the assurance process. The Committee was told that the consultation on service changes put forward by Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals Foundation Trust as part of 'Ambitions for the future' project would not take place until the strategies identified in the assurance process had been developed.
9. At these meetings, the Standing Committee concluded that the proposals arising from the work undertaken would lead to a substantial variation or development of service. As with any possible change in health service, the Standing Committee expects PCTs to demonstrate ongoing public and patient involvement in:
  - Planning services

- Developing and considering proposals for changes in the way services are provided; and
- Decisions to be made that affect how those services operate

10. Guidance on the duty to involve and consult recommends:

a) discussing with patients and the public how services could be improved and resources used more effectively, to produce plans for change – this constitutes involvement in planning;

b) discussing ideas, experiences, and the reasons why the NHS body has Identified the need for change with patients and the public, and with key partner organisations – this constitutes involvement in the development of health services;

c) consultation on proposals for change, using evidence from the Involvement activities as well as clinical evidence for improvement of treatment and care – this constitutes consultation

11. In addition, Phil Mettam also attended a meeting of the Social Care and Health Standing Committee (formerly Health and Wellbeing Standing Committee) on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011 when he indicated: that ambitious commissioning intentions had been drafted for Montagu Hospital Mexborough and Tickhill Road Hospital with a meeting due to take place later in September to decide when public consultation would be appropriate; that work was ongoing in relation to fractured neck of femur to ensure that treatment met national standards. Two small working groups had been established to make recommendations in relation to paediatric, obstetric and gynaecological services with initial work presented to the programme board in September for review. Finally, in relation to development of services at Bassetlaw Hospital, plans developed by a task and finish group would also be presented to the programme board in September.

12. On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011, the Social Care and Health Standing Committee received further briefing from Mr Mettam and representatives of the trust on the service models for Bassetlaw District General Hospital – this included information on maternity services, paediatric services and fractured neck of femur. This previous briefing is attached as Appendix A to this report for information.

13. A further briefing from NHS Bassetlaw and NHS Doncaster on the current position is attached as Appendix B to this report.

14. Representatives of NHS Bassetlaw and Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Foundation Trust will attend the meeting to provide Members with an update on the progress of the Review and the emerging proposals for services across Doncaster and Bassetlaw.

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Social Care and Health Standing Committee consider and comment on the update provided

**Councillor Ged Clarke**  
**Chair of the Social Care and Health Standing Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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**Background Papers**

Nil.

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