



meeting	KIRKBY GP SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE	
date	16 April 2007	agenda item number

## Report of the Head of Scrutiny

### **Change to Local NHS – Improving access to GPs in Kirkby-in-Ashfield through *Fairness in Primary Care***

**Nottinghamshire County Teaching Primary Care Trust**

#### **Purpose of report**

1. To invite the Select Committee to consider further information in relation to a proposed change to the local NHS by Nottinghamshire County Teaching Primary Care Trust (NCtPCT) - Improving access to GPs in Kirkby-in-Ashfield through *Fairness in Primary Care*.
2. To allow Members to formulate a response to the formal consultation being undertaken by the Trust.

#### **Background**

3. S11 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 places a duty on NHS Trusts to involve and consult public and patients in
  - Planning services
  - Developing and considering proposals for changes in the way those services operate
  - Decisions to be made that affect how those services operate.
4. S7 requires NHS Trusts to consult Overview and Scrutiny Committee on substantial variations/developments. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee initially considered the proposal from NCtPCT - Improving access to GPs in Kirkby-in-Ashfield through *Fairness in Primary Care* - on 26 February 2007.
5. NCtPCT is considering proposals to:
  - Convert Byron Ward (currently not in use) in Ashfield Community Hospital into a primary care centre
  - Advertise for a new Alternative Provider of Medical Services to run the primary care centre at Ashfield Community Hospital

- Move Kirkby Health Centre GP Practice (Dr Aye and Dr Gundkalli and all their staff) to the new development and become salaried GPs to the new provider.
6. The proposals are being brought forward as part of a national initiative - Fairness in Primary Care - in response to information showing that Ashfield is ranked third nationally for having fewest family doctors per head of population.
  7. It is suggested that the proposals will ensure that there is sufficient access to a GP for the population and through developing and enhancing GP services aims to improve the health of the local population.
  8. NCtPCT launched a public consultation on 17 January 2007 which runs until **16 April 2007**. A copy of the consultation is attached as an appendix to this report.
  9. Eleri de Gilbert, Director of Provider Development and Katie Buckle, Head of Planning, NCtPCT attended the meeting of the Select Committee on 27 March 2007 and provided Members with a presentation giving details of the proposals. A copy of the presentation is attached as an appendix to this report.

## Issues

10. At the meeting on 27 March 2007 Members identified a number of areas where they required additional information. Representatives of the tPCT have been invited to attend the meeting on 16 April 2007 to provide:
  - Statistical data on Kirkby and catchment areas of GP surgeries
  - An outline of any Directed Enhanced Services or Local Enhanced Services available at current GP surgeries serving Kirkby
  - Details of the consultation being carried out, the consultation plan and feedback on the responses received
  - Any feedback that the tPCT has received from GPs that the Trust is able to share with Members
  - Details of the travel plan being developed with information on the availability of local public transport, car parking and staff parking.
11. On 27 March 2007 the Select Committee recommended that the tPCT should attempt to increase the awareness of the proposals and consultation with the communities of Annesley Woodhouse. Members may wish to seek feedback from the tPCT as to whether this recommendation has been addressed.

12. At the request of the Select Committee GPs working in and around Kirkby have been invited to provide comments to Members. Any responses received will be reported at the meeting on 16 April 2007.
13. The tPCT has published a list of frequently asked questions which may be of interest to Members and is attached as an appendix to this report.
14. This Select Committee is invited to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and should principally consider:
  - Whether the proposals are in the best interests of patients
  - Whether appropriate consultation and consideration of consultation has been made.

### **Recommendations**

15. It is recommended that:

the Select Committee consider the proposals and agree a response to be submitted to the tPCT.

**Lynn Senior**  
**Head of Scrutiny**

### **Background papers**

Correspondence NCtPCT 16 January 2007, 27 March 2007

NCtPCT Consultation - Improving access to GPs in Kirkby-in-Ashfield through  
*Fairness in Primary Care*