

12 June 2012

**Agenda Item: 7**

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **REVIEW OF SPECIALIST PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICE REDESIGN**

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

1. To introduce an update on Specialist Palliative Care Service redesign.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. Representatives of Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) will attend this meeting to provide an update on Specialist Palliative Care Redesign. Members last received a briefing on this subject on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
3. A short update from NUH is attached at Appendix 1.
4. The committee has previously heard that palliative care is the active holistic care of patients with advanced progressive illness, Management of pain and other symptoms and provision of psychological, social and spiritual support is paramount. The goal of palliative care is achievement of the best quality of life for patients and their families. Many aspects of palliative care are also applicable earlier in the course of the illness in conjunction with other treatments.
5. Specialist palliative care services are provided by specialist consultant-led multidisciplinary palliative care teams and include: assessment, advice and care for patients and families in all care settings including hospitals and care homes, specialist in-patient facilities (in hospices or hospitals) for patients who benefit from the continuous support and care of specialist palliative care teams; as well as intensive co-ordinated home support for patients with complex needs who wish to stay at home.
6. There are two specialist palliative care providers in Nottinghamshire – John Eastwood Hospice in Ashfield and Hayward House in Nottingham. Following feedback from service users, members of the community and the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee, the Hayward House Advisory Group was formed in September 2011 to oversee the review process, with the objective of developing a proposal for the future delivery of these services. The proposed changes to the current service are as follows:

- § To accept referrals to specialist palliative day care services for patients with a non-cancer diagnosis
  - § To identify a designated day of the week to offer an out-patient service for new and follow-up patients.
7. Following patient engagement, it was confirmed to service-users, carers and staff at Hayward House that:
- § There will be no changes to day care support for current patients who will continue to receive their current level of day care support for as long as they require it on a day that suits them
8. The committee heard in September that the John Eastwood Hospice had undertaken two task and finish group meetings with discussions centring on understanding the current clinical pathway and identifying issues and opportunities for improvement. All key components of the service will continue and a plan of engagement for patients, carers and volunteers has been agreed.
9. The Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee agreed to receive an update on Specialist Palliative Care redesign in June 2012.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee consider and comment on the information provided.

**Councillor Mel Shepherd**  
**Chairman of Joint City and County 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