

JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
14 MARCH 2017
CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE SERVICES
REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR STRATEGY AND RESOURCES (CITY COUNCIL)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider proposals for congenital heart disease services with a particular focus on the implications for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire residents.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
 - a) confirm that the proposal that surgery and interventional cardiology for children and adults (Level 1 services) would cease at the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust is a substantial variation/ development of services for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire residents;
 - b) consider the information available regarding proposals for congenital heart disease services with a specific focus on the implications for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire residents; and
 - c) either provide comments or decide to seek further information/ have further discussion before submitting comments to NHS England prior to the consultation closing on 5 June 2017.

3. Background information

- 3.1 In September 2016 the Committee was informed that NHS England had announced proposals about the future provision of congenital heart disease services and that this included a proposal to cease surgery and interventional cardiology for children and adults at University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL). This is the provider to which the majority of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire patients requiring these services are referred to.
- 3.2 The Committee was asked to decide whether it considered the transfer of congenital heart disease surgical and interventional cardiology services from University Hospitals Leicester to appropriate alternative

hospitals to be a substantial development or variation to services for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire residents. At that time the Committee felt that it needed further information on both the proposals and the consultation process, which was not then available.

- 3.3 Public consultation on the proposals was launched on 9 February 2017 to run until 5 June 2017. During the consultation period NHS England will be attending a range of events including 3 face to face events (one in Leicester on 9 March) and 3 webinars. A consultation document has been produced and an online survey is available on the NHS England website. Consultation responses will be collated by an independent company and the analysis published in due course. NHS England has stated that in coming to a decision it will consider the responses to the consultation and will adjust its proposals if it considers it appropriate to do so. A final decision will be taken by the NHS England Board.
- 3.4 Copies of the following documents published as part of the consultation process are attached:
 - a) Proposals to implement standards for congenital heart disease services for children and adults in England – Consultation Document
 - b) Equalities and Health Inequalities Impact Assessment
 - c) NHS England Provider Impact Assessment Report
- 3.5 The consultation document sets out the background to the proposals, the case for change and how the proposals were developed; details of the proposals being consulted on; engagement and involvement on the proposals, including the consultation questions; and a summary of the impact assessments carried out.
- 3.6 The consultation document confirms that NHS England is consulting on the proposal that surgical and interventional cardiology for children and adults (Level 1 services) would cease at the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust. It states that children and adults who would currently be most likely to receive surgery and/or interventional cardiology at University Hospitals of Leicester would be likely to choose to receive their care at either Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust or University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and that some current Leicester patients would be likely to choose to receive care from Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, if this was closer for them than Birmingham. Details of the proposal relating to University Hospitals Leicester (UHL) can be found on pages 17-19 of the consultation document (attached at Appendix 1). The Impact Assessment says that from 2014/15 data it is predicted that 26 adults and 230 children who previously received treatment at UHL would be affected by the changes to Level 1 services (this would include some patients from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire).
- 3.7 An Equalities and Health Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached at Appendix 2. This includes an assessment of geographical

issues. A Provider Impact Assessment Report has also been carried out and is attached at Appendix 3. An assessment of the specific issues relating to UHL can be found from page 14 onwards in the report, including the impact on other services such as paediatric intensive care and Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO); impact on workforce; and impact on finances. It is stated that if Level 2 medical services continue to be provided by the Trust then the impacts will be reduced.

- 3.8 As part of the consultation NHS England will be attending this meeting to discuss the proposals with the Committee and receive any comments that the Committee wishes to make at this stage (similar meetings are scheduled with other health scrutiny committees). This is an opportunity for the Committee to ask questions and seek any clarification required both about the process and the proposals themselves. Following this the Committee may wish to submit comments as part of the consultation. This could either take place at this meeting or at a future date before the consultation period ends on 5 June 2017.
- 3.9 As part of the evidence gathering process for this, the Committee has asked local trusts and clinical commissioning groups if they would like to provide any information to the Committee regarding their assessment of the implications of the proposals for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire residents. A presentation from University Hospitals of Leicester is included with the papers.
- 3.10 Health scrutiny committees in other areas of the East Midlands are also considering the proposed changes and have meetings with NHS England scheduled to discuss the impact of the proposed changes on residents in their area.
- 3.11 Changes are also proposed to the provision of Level 2 specialist medical care (including that specialist medical care and interventional cardiology should cease at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust). Those changes are not part of this formal public consultation but the consultation document states that NHS England will be offering the opportunity for people to discuss those proposals.

4. List of attached information

Appendix 1: Proposals to implement standards for congenital heart disease services for children and adults in England – Consultation Document

Appendix 2: Equalities and Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

Appendix 3: NHS England Provider Impact Assessment Report

Appendix 4: Presentation from University Hospitals of Leicester

5. Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6. Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Report to and minutes of meeting of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee held on 13 September 2016

NHS England news “Congenital Heart Disease: NHS England takes action to deliver consistent and high quality services now and for the future” www.england.nhs.uk 08/07/16

7. Wards affected

7.1 All

8. Contact information

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