

8 November 2016**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****PLANNING FOR WINTER PRESSURES****Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce briefing on how the NHS and partners plan for winter conditions.

Information and Advice

2. Winter pressures in the NHS come every year, but despite planning the NHS faces considerable challenge. It is not simply about Emergency Department attendances – which can be at their lowest during the winter months – the major issue centres on emergency admissions and the number of people requiring hospital care predominantly with respiratory conditions or other conditions, for example, the failure of the heart to maintain adequate blood circulation after long-standing vascular disease – usually brought on by cold weather and viruses.
3. Many of those affected tend to be older vulnerable people who have increased care needs as much as a medical need. NHS England statistics indicate that, for those over 75 years of age there is a greater than 80% chance of needing admission from the Emergency Department, whereas for the under 30, it is less than 20%. Once in the Emergency Department, these patients will require a bed or trolley space until they are discharged. If the onward flow stops, then new patients cannot be received from the ambulance service or examined – this is sometimes referred to as “congestive hospital failure.”
4. Nikki Pownall, Nottingham City CCG, Nicola Peese, Nottinghamshire County Council and Dr Stephen Fowlie, Medical Director, NUH will attend this meeting of the Joint Health Committee to brief Members and answer questions, as necessary. A combined presentation from the CCG, NUH and social care partners is attached as an appendix to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Councillor Parry Tsimbiridis
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