

Purpose

1. This report provides Members with information on proposed changes to arrangements for General Practices in West Bridgford.

Information

2. Five West Bridgford GP Practices intend to co-locate on a single site. Four of these practices intend to merge into a single large practice. The practices concerned are Ludlow Hill, Southview, Trent Bridge, Compton Acres and Musters.
3. A briefing provided by NHS Nottinghamshire County is attached at Appendix A.

The Statutory Duty

4. 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:
 - i. whether as a statutory body the OSC has been properly consulted within the consultation period
 - ii. 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

- iii. whether the proposals for change are in the interests of the local health service

Overview and Scrutiny Expectations

5. 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
6. 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
7. Representatives of NHS Nottinghamshire County and Local GPs have been invited to attend this meeting to provide information on these proposed changes to the review group.

Recommendation:

Members are requested to consider the information provided and schedule further consideration of the proposals as necessary

Councillor Ged Clarke

Chair of the Social Care and Health Standing Committee

Scrutiny Co-ordinator: martin.gately@nottsc.gov.uk

Background Papers: CfPS Substantial Variations and Developments of health services, a guide 2005