

9 October 2018**Agenda Item: 7**

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

GLUTEN FREE PRESCRIBING

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the decision taken by commissioners on restricting gluten free products.

Information

2. Members will recall that Beth Carney and Dr James Hopkinson attended the last meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee to provide information about the consultation to restrict or stop the prescribing of gluten free products. The proposals were as follows:
 - *Limit prescribing for all patients in Greater Nottingham to four units of long life bread and flour per month.*
 - *All Greater Nottingham CCGs to stop all gluten free prescribing, with the exception of children, who will be able to receive up to four units of long life bread and flour per month.*
 - *All Greater Nottingham CCGs to stop all gluten free prescribing.*
3. The consultation ran from Thursday 14th June to Thursday 26th July 2018, and over 500 responses had been received.
4. Members registered concerns about children in deprived areas not receiving gluten free products, and therefore preferred the second option.
5. The NHS Greater Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Partnership's Joint Commissioning Committee has made the decision to stop the prescribing of gluten free food. Senior representatives of the commissioners (Dr James Hopkinson, Cheryl Gresham and Beth Carney) will attend the Health Scrutiny Committee to brief Members and answer questions as necessary.
6. A written briefing from the commissioners and accompanying Equality Impact Assessment and consultation document are attached as appendices to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Determine if the proposed change is in the interests of the local health service.

Councillor Keith Girling
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 977 2826

Background Papers

Nil

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All