

## EMAS CHANGE PROGRAMME REVIEW SCOPE

Method of Review: Single evidence gathering session in November 2012 with maximum number of relevant attendees

Outcome: Evidence based recommendations for onward transmission to EMAS

Central Themes to be addressed: Is the EMAS Change Programme – particularly in how it relates to the rationalisation of the estate – in the interests of the local health service? Has the wider consultation with patients and the public been adequate?

Possible areas for questioning:

- Could the change programme be detrimental to ambulance response times?
- Are the planned locations for the hubs appropriate?
- How well has EMAS consulted?
- Are the proposals from EMAS sufficiently detailed/properly worked out?
- Should the proposals be piloted in a single area first to see what lessons can be learned?
- Will the proposals extend the staff working day?
- What will the effect be on staff morale?
- Do the proposals place people in rural areas at a disadvantage?
- Should co-location take precedence over utilisation of portakabins?
- Under the new proposals where does the responsibility lie for ensuring that ambulances are fully stocked with the necessary equipment?

### Guidance

Following the transmission of finalised recommendations to EMAS, the Trust should be allowed two months to develop a response and communicate it to the Joint Committee. At this time the Joint Committee should make a final determination on whether or not the proposals are in the interests of the local health service. Where issues still remain to be resolved, the Joint Committee will undertake substantial dialogue with the Trust in order to seek to reach agreement. The Joint Committee may wish to make further recommendations during this phase. If, when all avenues of discussion have been exhausted, the Joint Committee feels that the proposals are not in the interests of the local health service they may consider referring the proposals to the Secretary of State for Health. This would involve producing a comprehensive report supported by a package of evidence. Following this, the Secretary of State will invite the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) to make an initial examination of the referral in order to determine if it should go to a full review.

Recently, following referral of proposals relating to children's congenital cardiac services by two health scrutiny committees, the IRP made a general call for evidence, inviting all interested parties, including members of the public to send material to them regarding the changes.