

**Extension of temporary overnight closure of Newark Urgent Care Centre**

**Briefing for Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**24 June 2020**

Dear Colleagues

On 3 April 2020 we shared a briefing to inform you that Newark Urgent Care Centre would be temporarily closed overnight for a period of 3 months, from 6 April 2020. In this period the Urgent Care Centre has remained open and operating as usual from 9am until 10pm.

We are now writing to inform you that we have agreed with the provider of the service, Sherwood Forest Hospitals (SFH) NHS Foundation Trust, a 6 month extension period to this temporary overnight closure until 4 January 2021

As the commissioner of the service, we are writing to you in line with our statutory duty to inform the Local Authority of any substantial change to services. We have enclosed a copy of the briefing that outlines the reasons for extending this temporary change, which are to ensure that we continue to provide services safely.

We noted at the time of the initial temporary closure that the number of patients seen overnight at Newark Urgent Care Centre was very low and had been reducing during the Covid-19 pandemic. Staffing levels within the Trust are still impacting the ability to provide safe patient care, and the extension of this temporary closure enables a continuation of the pooling of out-of-hours staffing resources.

We would like to reassure the Committee that we will be keeping this decision under regular review, with a more detailed analysis at 3 months to inform winter resilience. Any proposed permanent change to services will be subject to the usual procedures, including public consultation and consultation with the Local Authority.

For more information on the changes described in this briefing, please contact:

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