

Health Scrutiny Committee Briefing March 2022

The Future of Children's Urgent and Emergency Services at Bassetlaw Hospital

Background

NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group's ambition is to improve access to local services, ensuring that high quality care is provided at the right time as close to home as possible. To help achieve this, £17.6 million is being invested in the development of a modern centre for urgent and emergency care services at the Bassetlaw Hospital site. This investment creates an opportunity to look at the way in which urgent and emergency services are provided to meet the needs of our local community, now and into the future.

The development specifically allows the CCG and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTH) to address the challenges which resulted in the temporary closure of the overnight non-complex children's inpatient services in January 2017 due to safety concerns.

Before making any decision about the permanent urgent care pathway for Bassetlaw paediatric patients, the CCG wanted to seek the views of the local community, service users, staff, community groups and partner organisations. The CCG is keen to ensure any decision on the long-term solution to meeting local patient need is fully informed and shaped by local people and partners.

On 7 December 2021, the CCG launched *The Future of Children's Urgent and Emergency Services at Bassetlaw Hospital* consultation and the process ran until 28 February 2022.

The consultation process

The Future of Children's Urgent and Emergency Services at Bassetlaw Hospital consultation offered people a number of ways to make their views known including:

- **Online survey** accessible via a direct link publicised widely in consultation materials.
- **Paper surveys** which mirrored the online survey with a freepost return option. Other formats were also available on request and the survey was translated into Polish.

- **Meetings and public engagement** took place with a number of partners, staff and stakeholders during the consultation period as well as engagement drop-ins at supermarkets and at Bassetlaw Hospital.
- **Written feedback** in the form of letters, emails and long form submissions were sent to the CCG and direct consultation email address from individuals and organisations.
- **Targeted engagement** with parents and carers; children and young people; and rural and Polish communities
- **Social media** comments were received through Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's Facebook and Twitter channels.

NHS Bassetlaw CCG and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust carried out a programme of planned communications and engagement to promote the consultation and encourage people to have their say. As a consequence, almost 2,000 responses were received across different channels within the consultation period.

An objective analysis of the responses received during this consultation has been carried out by The Campaign Company and the independent report of the consultation findings is attached in Appendix 1.

NHS Bassetlaw CCG welcomes the opportunity to attend Health Scrutiny Committee to present the findings of the consultation.

Next steps and recommendations

The CCG is producing a Decision Making Business Case (DMBC) for consideration by the CCG Governing Body in April 2022. The findings of the engagement, alongside other considerations including clinical and patient safety and quality issues will be central to the development of the DMBC and recommendations to the Governing Body. It will also include feedback from HSC. The Governing Body will be making its final decision at this stage.