

12 September 2023

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

NEWARK URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Committee of proposals for the operation of the Newark Urgent Treatment Centre, and to enlist the Committee's support in ensuring robust public engagement on the proposals.

Information

2. Newark Hospital's Urgent Treatment Centre was temporarily closed for overnight admissions in April 2020 to prioritise emergency service provision during the Covid 19 pandemic, and the temporary closure was extended in 2021 and 2022.
3. The Committee was advised at its June 2023 meeting that the temporary closure was to be extended for a further 12 month period, to the end of June 2024. At this meeting, the Committee received assurance that this would be the final temporary extension of current arrangements, and that proposals for the future operation of the Urgent Treatment Centre would be presented to the Committee before the end of 2023.
4. The Integrated Care Board has worked over the summer with Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and other NHS partners to develop a proposed way forward, detailed in the appendices to this report. It is not proposed to re-establish overnight Urgent Treatment Centre opening, but to continue to offer 13-hour opening of the Centre.
5. It is further proposed to deliver an engagement plan, running from 4 September to 17 October 2023. This will seek to gather the views of residents and stakeholders on how well current opening hours work for them, whether there are alternative patterns within the proposed 13-hour window of operation which work better for service users, and whether other means of accessing out-of-hours urgent care are delivering in line with expectations.
6. Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board representatives Lucy Dadge, Director of Integration, Alex Ball, Director of Communications and Engagement and Dr Dave Briggs Medical Director, as well as Ben Owens, Consultant in Emergency Medicine at the Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust and Dr Thilan Bartholomeuz, Clinical Director, Mid Nottinghamshire Place Based Partnership will attend the meeting to provide further information and answer questions, as necessary.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) Considers and comments on proposals in respect of the opening hours of the Newark Urgent Treatment Centre and the provision of out-of-hours urgent care services;
- (2) works with local residents and stakeholders to publicise and ensure full participation in the engagement process running between 4 September and 17 October 2023;
- (3) considers the outcomes of the engagement process and next steps for the Newark Urgent Treatment Centre at a future Committee meeting.

Councillor Sue Saddington
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Noel McMEnamin – 0115 993 2670

Background Papers

Nil

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Balderton
Collingham
Farndon and Trent
Muskham and Farnsfield
Newark East
Newark West
Southwell