

Health Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 14 June 2016

Electoral Division affected:
Bamber Bridge and Walton-le-Dale; Chorley East; Chorley North; Chorley Rural East; Chorley Rural North; Chorley Rural West; Chorley South; Chorley West; Farington; Leyland Central; Leyland South West; Penwortham North; Penwortham South; Preston Central North; Preston Central South; Preston City; Preston East; Preston North; Preston North East; Preston North West; Preston Rural; Preston South East; Preston West; South Ribble Rural East; South Ribble Rural West;

Sustainability issues - Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust temporary closure of Chorley A&E

(Appendix A refers)

Contact for further information:

Wendy Broadley, Principal Overview & Scrutiny Officer, 07825 584684,
wendy.broadley@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The Health Scrutiny Committee has held a series of meetings to discuss the issues arising from the temporary closure of the Emergency Department at Chorley Hospital.

The first meeting on 26 April was attended by the Chief Executive of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust and representatives from the local Clinical Commissioning Group. The purpose of the meeting was to establish the events and decisions that contributed to the closure of the department.

A second meeting was then held on 24 May to consider the issues of recruitment that had been identified by the Trust as contributory factors to their decision to close the department and attendees included Health Education England North West, Medacs Healthcare and NHS Improvement.

This third meeting will focus on the long term sustainability of health services within the county and discuss how the Clinical Commissioning Group and partners will design, consult and deliver new models of care. Representatives will attend from Healthier Lancashire & South Cumbria Change Programme, the Clinical Commissioning Group and a local campaign group.

Recommendation

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the information and to discuss and determine the future course of action.

Background and Advice

The Health Scrutiny Committee met on 26 April to discuss the temporary closure of the Emergency Department at Chorley Hospital. The meeting was attended by the Chief Executive of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust and representatives from the local Clinical Commissioning Group. A presentation provided by the Trust identified a number of key factors that influenced the decision to temporarily close the A&E at Chorley. One of these key factors was the current challenges around recruitment of middle grade doctors.

To better understand this issue it was agreed that further scrutiny was required of the external factors that impact on recruitment processes. Therefore a number of key organisations and individuals were invited to either express their concerns or explain the role and responsibilities of the organisations they represent at a special meeting of the Committee on 24 May.

The Committee received contributions from the following:

- Paul Chandler and Gaynor Hales from NHS Improvement – this organisation is responsible for overseeing Foundation Trusts and NHS Trusts, as well as independent providers that provide NHS-funded care. By holding providers to account and, where necessary, intervening, they help the NHS to meet its short-term challenges and secure its future.
- NHS Employers - their vision is to be the authoritative voice of workforce leaders, experts in HR, negotiating fairly to get the best deal for patients. They help employers make sense of current and emerging healthcare issues to ensure that their voice is front and centre of health policy and practice. They keep them up to date with the latest workforce thinking and expert opinion, providing practical advice and information, and generating opportunities to network and share knowledge and best practice. They provide the Committee with a copy of the Guidance on the Appointment and Employment of Locum Doctors.
- Mick Whitley from Medacs Healthcare – They are a leading healthcare staffing company providing healthcare recruitment expertise to both the public and private sectors. They are the managed service provider for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust.

- Professor Jacky Hayden from Health Education England North West – working across the North West, they are responsible for the education, training and workforce planning for all NHS staff. They provide the Trust with an allocation of trainee doctors.
- A number of local MPs were also invited. Written statements were provided by Mark Hendrick MP for Preston and Seema Kennedy MP for South Ribble. Lindsay Hoyle MP for Chorley attended the meeting

This third meeting now has a focus on the long term sustainability of health services not only within the Chorley area but within the wider CCG footprint and at a county level. NHS colleagues and a representative from a local campaign group will attend the meeting to continue the discussion on the future of Chorley A&E.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no significant risk implications in the report

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
n/a	n/a	n/a

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate