

Health Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 20 September 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; (All Divisions); 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;

Emergency Care Crisis - Chorley

Appendix A refers

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

On 13 April Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust notified a number of stakeholders and the public that they had taken the decision to temporarily close the A&E Department at Chorley & South Ribble Hospital and introduce an Urgent Care Service which would only be open between the hours of 8am and 8pm with a GP Out-of-Hours service overnight. The reason given by the Trust for the decision was due to insufficient numbers of middle grade doctors required to deliver a safe service.

The temporary change came into effect on Monday 18 April 2016.

The Health Scrutiny Committee consequently held a series of meetings to establish how the situation came to be, what steps needed to be taken by the Trust to resolve the situation, and what lessons could be learnt for the NHS for the future.

Committee meetings took place on 26 April, 24 May and 14 June during which evidence was presented by a number of stakeholders and additional information had been gathered to support the members in their consideration of the issues identified.

Attached at Appendix A is a report on the findings and conclusions of the Committee formed from the evidence presented together with the subsequent recommendations for future action.

Recommendation

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to approve the recommendations contained within the report attached at Appendix A.

Background and Advice

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust provides a range of district general hospital services to the 390,000 local population of Preston, Chorley, and South Ribble. Services are provided mainly from Royal Preston Hospital and Chorley and South Ribble Hospital.

- Royal Preston Hospital is designated as the major trauma centre for Lancashire which is where the majority of the Trust's specialist services are provided, as well as trauma pathway services including neurosurgery, vascular, plastics, and trauma orthopaedics.
- Any patient who presents at Chorley who requires a specialist review is transferred to Royal Preston Hospital, including children and young people as there is no longer a paediatric service at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital.
- In 2015, around 79,000 patients attended Royal Preston Emergency Department a year, and around 50,000 patients attended Chorley Emergency Department.

Prior to 18 April 2016, both hospitals provided a 24 hour emergency department service, with consultant cover at Royal Preston Hospital until midnight (on call thereafter). There was no consultant presence at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital after 6pm.

On 13 April the Trust notified a number of stakeholders that they had taken the decision to temporarily change the service provision at Chorley from an A&E Department to an Urgent Care Service, operating between the hours of 8am and 8pm with a GP Out-of-Hours service overnight. The decision was made due to insufficient numbers of middle grade doctors required to deliver a safe service. The change would take effect from 18 April 2016.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no significant risk implications within this report.

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust – Chorley A&E Update	26.4.16	Wendy Broadley/07825584684
Recruitment Issues – Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust	24.5.16	Wendy Broadley/07825584684
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust – temporary closure of Chorley A&E	14.6.16	Wendy Broadley/07825584684

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate