

# Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire

## Stakeholder Brief – February 2016

### 1. Clinical Model Approved

The Clinical Model for the Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire has been approved by NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove, NHS South Worcestershire and NHS Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Groups and endorsed by Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. The model will now be reviewed by the West Midlands Clinical Senate before being assured by NHS England. Once the model has been assured the public will be consulted and asked for their views.

Under the model 95% of patients will see no change to the way they currently access services in the county and all three of the county's acute hospitals –the Alexandra, Kidderminster Hospital and Treatment Centre and the Worcestershire Royal –will remain open. Worcestershire will also retain its two Accident and Emergency Departments and the Minor Injuries Unit at Kidderminster.

The main proposed changes to services in the proposed clinical model of care are:

- Separation of emergency and planned care to improve outcomes and patient experience
- Creation of centres of excellence for planned surgery
- Urgent care centre for adults and children at the Alexandra Hospital
- A&E remaining at the Alexandra Hospital (adult only) with robust arrangements for managing a seriously sick child if they arrive unexpectedly or their condition deteriorates and they need an inpatient stay in hospital
- Centralisation of inpatient care for children at Worcester with the majority of children's care remaining local
- Centralisation of consultant-led births at Worcester with ante-natal and post-natal care remaining local
- Centralisation of emergency surgery

### 2. Safety of Services

The on-going safety of clinical services is monitored monthly by the Programme Board's Quality and Service Sustainability sub group. The group has identified trigger points which would lead to recommendations to the statutory bodies (the CCGs and acute trust) to make changes to services. The Programme Board supports the extension of the temporary emergency move of maternity, neonatal and emergency gynaecology services from the Alexandra Hospital to Worcestershire Royal Hospital due to patient safety concerns.

### 3. Finances

The Clinical Model is expected to save £4.8 million and be the catalyst for a further £20 million of savings. Clarity on the proposed changes to services should enable Worcestershire Acute Hospitals to attract more permanent staff and reduce reliance on expensive temporary staff.

#### **4. Transport**

Transport for patients, staff and visitors has been considered by a transport working group which included representatives from Worcestershire County Council, patients and carers. The group has made a number of recommendations which have been forwarded to Worcestershire County Council which has a statutory duty to provide public transport in the county. The recommendations include extending the 350 bus service between Redditch and Worcester to an hourly service in each direction, improved use of community transport with the potential for a community bus and better promotion of car sharing and alternative forms of transport, particularly for staff. The programme team is now researching the transport arrangements at other hospitals to gauge how popular they are with patients, visitors and staff.

#### **5. Public Consultation**

The Programme Board is committed to putting the clinical model out for public consultation and to listening to the views of patients and the public before any formal decisions are made on the future of acute hospital services in Worcestershire.

#### **6. Accountable Officers**

Simon Hairsnape is being seconded to Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group from Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. Simon Trickett, currently chief operating officer of NHS South Worcestershire CCG has been appointed the interim Chief Officer and Accountable Officer for NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove and NHS Wyre Forest CCGs. Simon Trickett and Dr Carl Ellson, Chief Clinical Officer for NHS South Worcestershire CCG, will be the joint Senior Responsible Officers for the Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire programme.