

Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire

Stakeholder Brief – June 2014

Clinical sub groups

The three clinical sub groups – women's and children's, emergency care and planned care have completed their modelling work and have produced specifications which will now be subject to financial scrutiny to ensure they are affordable to the health community in Worcestershire. Mr Nigel Beasley, the chair of the Independent Clinical Review Panel together with the West Midlands Clinical Senate will also be asked to assure themselves that the specifications meet the recommendations set out in the Independent Clinical Review Panel report in January. An enormous amount of work has been done by GPs and hospital clinicians to produce the detailed clinical specifications.

Scrutiny of the Programme

Worcestershire County Council will be establishing a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee in conjunction with neighbouring councils to scrutinise the Future of Acute Hospitals in Worcestershire programme and the public consultation which is due later this year. In addition the FOASHW programme is due to report on progress at Worcestershire's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on July 15th. The meeting will be held in public.

NHS England Assurance

The programme passed the first NHS England Strategic Sense check in May and has been given permission to progress to a formal NHS England Assurance Panel at the end of July. At this panel NHS England will decide whether the process to date has been robust and the plans for consultation are sufficient. It will also want confirmation that the programme is affordable to the health service in Worcestershire and that Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust will be able to access the capital monies required to enable additional patient capacity to be provided at its three hospitals.

Public Consultation

Public consultation on the programme is scheduled to start in September and it will run for 12 weeks. Plans for the consultation are being overseen by a Patient, Public and Stakeholder Advisory Group and the group has set up a reading panel to ensure that all the documentation is accurate and of the highest standard. The three Clinical Commissioning Groups in Worcestershire are working with neighbouring CCGs in South Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Solihull and Birmingham to ensure that their patients are included in the planned public consultation.

During the consultation we want to talk to people at local roadshows and events and to attend as many meetings hosted by local groups and organisations as possible. If you would like us to attend a meeting which you are involved with please contact sarah.makin@ardencsu.nhs.uk and once we know the dates of the consultation we will contact you to see if we can find a suitable date to meet with you. We would also like to send you articles for any magazines you publish. If you have any suitable magazines please e-mail the details to sarah.makin@ardencsu.nhs.uk

Website

The Future of Acute Hospitals in Worcestershire website address is www.worcsfuturehospitals.co.uk It contains the latest information on the programme.

If you know of anyone else who would like to receive this update or if you no longer wish to receive it please e-mail sarah.makin@ardencsu.nhs.uk