

Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire

Stakeholder Brief – July 2014

NHS England Assurance Panel

The programme will present its outline business case for the Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire to an NHS England Assurance Panel on August 6th. The panel will decide if the programme can start public consultation in September. The Assurance Panel will review the Outline Business Case and the plans for public consultation.

Next steps

If the programme passes the NHS Assurance panel at the beginning of August the West Midlands Clinical Senate will be asked to confirm that the outline business case reflects the recommendations of the Independent Clinical Review Panel led by Mr Nigel Beasley. The outline business case and all consultation materials will then be submitted to the Governing Bodies of the three Clinical Commissioning Groups for formal approval in early September. Public consultation would start later in September and run for 12 weeks finishing in December. The report on the consultation and the final decisions on service changes would be taken by the Clinical Commissioning Groups' Governing Bodies in January 2015.

Health Overview and Scrutiny

Worcestershire County Council's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was given an overview of progress to date at its meeting on July 15th. Councillors asked members of the programme questions on the plans for consultation and asked for reassurance that no changes to services would occur until alternative provision has been identified elsewhere in the NHS.

Update on public consultation

The Programme is planning a comprehensive and inclusive public consultation. During the 12-week consultation there will be public meetings in Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Evesham, Kidderminster, Malvern, Redditch and Worcester. There will also be consultation roadshows in the main entrances of the county's hospitals and a consultation bus will spend a week touring the smaller towns in Worcestershire. The aim is to reach as many people as possible during the 12 weeks. In addition members of the Programme Team are keen to be invited to talk about the proposals to existing groups. 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 arrange a suitable date to meet with you.

The start of the public consultation will be announced in the local media and we are planning a postcard drop to every household in Worcestershire and those most likely to be affected in South Warwickshire. The

postcard will contain dates of the public meetings and tell people where they can find out more about the consultation.

The plans for public consultation are being led by an independent Patient and Public Engagement advisory group which consists of local people including patients and politicians.

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