


Agenda Item 8

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
Boston Borough Council	East Lindsey District Council	City of Lincoln Council	Lincolnshire County Council
North Kesteven District Council	South Holland District Council	South Kesteven District Council	West Lindsey District Council

Open Report on behalf of NHS England - Midlands & East (Central Midlands)

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	22 July 2015
Subject:	Burton Road GP Surgery, Lincoln

Summary:

On 1 July 2015 the management of the primary medical services provided to patients of the Burton Road Surgery transferred from Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust to Universal Health Ltd.

Universal Health Ltd was awarded the contract to provide services for a minimum period of 5 years, with the option to extend for up to an additional 5 years.

Actions Required:

To consider the update on the future arrangements for the Burton Road Surgery.

1. Burton Road Surgery Lincoln

Background

NHS England commissions primary medical services via a number of Alternative Provider of Medical Services (APMS) contracts. These are fixed term contracts that were due to expire on 31 March 2015.

Services delivered from The Burton Road Surgery are provided under an APMS contract and the future provision of these services were, at the time, under consideration by NHS England locally and as part of that work a review took place of the services delivered by these APMS providers.

NHS England first wrote to patients registered at the Burton Road Surgery on the 27 May 2014. In that letter they notified patients that the contract for their GP services was due to end and advised them of the proposed closure of the practice on the 30 September 2014.

However, NHS England also explained that they were seeking patient views about this change and offered the chance to attend two drop-in sessions and complete a patient questionnaire by 27 June 2014. The closing date for receipt of completed questionnaires was extended to 4 July 2014.

At the drop-in sessions the Area Team heard from patients how much they valued the service and the Burton Road practice team. NHS England also acknowledged that their original letter to patients of the surgery had caused confusion and apologised for this.

NHS England agreed to send a second letter to keep patients updated about their future GP services and this was sent on Friday 20 June 2014.

The Area Team Director attended a public meeting on 7 July 2014.

NHS England was successful in negotiating a further extension to the current APMS contract at Burton Road with the organisation that provided the service at the time (Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust). This extended contract ended on 30 June 2015, giving sufficient time to re-procure the contract, should this be the final decision of the Area Team.

Consultation

NHS England carried out a full patient consultation between 4 August and 17 September to more accurately gauge the views of patients and other stakeholders. Patients were asked which of two options they would choose:

Option 1 – **To see who might be interested in the opportunity to provide a service to Burton Road Surgery patients:** this means that the service may remain the same; could be delivered from different premises, by different staff; or may not continue

Option 2 – **To close the Surgery:** we would then help registered patients to choose another practice in the area.

There was a good response to the survey with a total of 491 patient surveys returned out of the 2,301 that were distributed. This represents a response rate of 21.3%. Of these 491 responses 472 (96.1%) were in favour of Option 1.

NHS England also consulted with a range of other stakeholders and the outcomes can be found in the attached full internal report.

On 4 August 2014 NHS England again wrote to patients. This letter was sent together with a further consultation document for patients to complete. The consultation gave patients the opportunity to comment on the available options. The consultation period ended on 17 September 2014.

Given the outcome of the patient consultation, NHS England proceeded to the procurement of services at Burton Road Surgery.

Current Position

Following a successful procurement, responsibility for the provision of Primary Medical Services at Burton Road Surgery transferred to the new provider, Universal Health Ltd on 1 July 2015. Services continue to be provided from the same site and largely by the same staff. The contract that was awarded to Universal Health Ltd is for a minimum of five years.

There are currently 2,234 patients registered at the practice.

2. Conclusion

The Committee is asked to note the update on arrangements for the Burton Road Surgery.

3. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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