


Agenda Item 5

		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 Richard Wills, the Director Responsible for Democratic Services

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	21 December 2016
Subject:	Congenital Heart Disease Services

Summary:

On 8 July 2016, NHS England announced that "subject to consultation with relevant trusts and, if appropriate the wider public" it was decommissioning congenital heart disease surgery ("Level 1 services") from the East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre (formerly known as Glenfield Hospital). On 20 July, the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire considered this announcement and authorised the Chairman to write to NHS England to seek a commitment to full public consultation.

In September 2016, NHS England committed to a public consultation, with an expectation the consultation document would be issued during December 2016. On 23 November 2016, NHS England announced that the consultation would now begin in 2017. The purpose of this item is to enable the Committee to engage with NHS England prior to the beginning of the consultation.

Will Huxter Regional Director of Specialised Commissioning, NHS England, will be attending the meeting to present information and respond to questions.

Actions Required:

To provide comments to NHS England in advance of the public consultation on Congenital Heart Disease, which is due to be launched in early 2017.

1. Background

Announcement by NHS England - 8 July 2016

As reported to the Health Scrutiny Committee on 20 July and 21 September 2016, NHS England stated on 8 July 2016:

"Subject to consultation with relevant Trusts and, if appropriate, the wider public, NHS England will also work with University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust and Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust to safely transfer CHD surgical and interventional cardiology services to appropriate alternative hospitals. Neither University Hospitals Leicester or the Royal Brompton Trusts meet the standards and are extremely unlikely to be able to do so. Specialist medical services may be retained in Leicester."

On 21 July 2016, the Committee unanimously agreed that to decommission Level 1 Paediatric Cardiac and Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services from the East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre would constitute a substantial variation, as defined by Regulation 23 of the *Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013*. The Committee also unanimously agreed that the Chairman would write to NHS England outlining the Committee's views and seeking NHS England's commitment to full public consultation.

NHS England's report: Paediatric Cardiac and Adult Congenital Heart Disease Standards Compliance Assessment: Report of the National Panel, was published on 15 July 2016 and is attached at Appendix A.

Correspondence Between the Chairman and NHS England

Correspondence between the Chairman and NHS England has established or confirmed the following:

- No final decisions have been taken about the future of University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust or any of the other congenital heart diseases services in England declined to undertake public consultation.
- Information regarding consultation about the proposals will be communicated as widely as possible, well in advance of consultation starting. NHS England will make sure that the consultation takes account of those services which could be impacted by changes to CHD services, including paediatric intensive care and ECMO.
- NHS England is now in the pre-consultation engagement stage.
- The national and regional panel assessments of Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) centres against key standards in the new service specification, which came into effect on 1 April 2016, were completed in June 2016. Following these assessments, the Committee of NHS England agreed with the recommendation that centres assessed as 'not satisfactory and highly unlikely to meet service standards' should be served notice that NHS England was minded to cease to contract their

services. Providers were informed of these assessments at the end of June 2016. Any necessary public involvement would be undertaken before service changes were implemented.

Individual Assessment Reports

On 13 September 2016, NHS England published individual assessment reports for 21 hospital trusts. All these reports are available at the following link:

www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/chd/#reports

The NHS England Standards Compliance Assessment report relating to the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust is attached at Appendix B to this report.

NHS England has visited University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust to meet to staff, patients and other stakeholders about NHS England's assessment of the Trust against the standards. NHS England advises that there has been extensive correspondence and discussion since that visit.

NHS England Blogs

Blogs by Will Huxter have been published on the NHS England website. Three of these are included in Appendix C of this report. The most recent blog, 23 November, indicates that consultation will not begin until early in 2017.

Briefing for Local Government

In September 2016, a briefing entitled *Briefing for Local Government on Proposed Changes to NHS Specialist Services for People with Congenital Heart Disease* was circulated to the Centre for Public Scrutiny for onward distribution to local authority health overview and scrutiny committees. A copy of this briefing in the format published on the NHS website, dated 14 October 2016, is attached at Appendix D.

2. Conclusion

This item aims to provide comments to NHS England in advance of the public consultation on Congenital Heart Disease, which is due to be launched in early 2017.

3. Consultation

This item provides the Committee with information in advance of an expected public consultation on congenital heart disease services.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Paediatric Cardiac and Adult Congenital Heart Disease Standards Compliance Assessment: Report of the National Panel (<i>NHS England 15 July 2016</i>)
Appendix B	Paediatric Cardiac and Adult Congenital Heart Disease: Standards Compliance Assessment: Hospital Trust: University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (<i>NHS England – 13 September 2016</i>)
Appendix C	Will Huxter Blogs on Congenital Heart Disease (13 September, 19 October and 23 November 2016)
Appendix D	Briefing for Local Government on Proposed Changes to NHS Specialist Services for People with Congenital Heart Disease.

5. 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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