Dear

Minor Injury Nursing Service – Grantham Hospital

We are writing to you regarding the enhanced Minor Injury Nursing Services at Grantham Hospital.

You may be aware that, at the time of the decision made in August 2016 to restrict the operating hours of the A&E Department at Grantham Hospital, South West Lincolnshire CCG put a minor injury nursing service in place on a trial basis, to see if it would be of value to the local population.

The trial started in September 2016 and is operated by Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust as part of the Out of Hours Services based on the Kingfisher Unit at Grantham Hospital. The service is listed as part of the Directory of NHS Services for Lincolnshire and is offered either through 111 or walk in from local residents. The service starts at 6.30pm and runs until 11.30pm, 7 days a week. It is able to see Minor Injury only. It is not in any way a replacement of the A&E department services, but is typically able to see:

- cuts, grazes and lacerations (but not very deep cuts that will not stop bleeding)
- minor scalds and burns
- strains, sprains and suspected fractures
- bites and stings

It is a nurse delivered service. It is not able to see head injuries, foreign bodies or any major injury.
We have recently evaluated this trial service after 16 months of operation. For the 2017 calendar year, only 65 patients were seen in the service. The total cost of the service is £130,000 per year, so the average cost is £2000 per attendance. This is clearly not value for the public purse.

Whilst the trial of this service does not appear to have been successful, we are keen to hear from local people on this matter so we will be shortly undertaking an online survey for the public over a 4 week period which will give the public an opportunity to provide their views. Once this process is complete, we will carefully consider this feedback and inform you of our conclusions.

If you wish for any further information or to discuss this, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Yours sincerely

Dr Dave Baker
CCG GP Chair
South West Lincolnshire CCG

John Turner
Chief Officer
South West Lincolnshire CCG