

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 11

meeting date: THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2017
title: CONSULTATION ON THE CLOSURE OF CALDERSTONES HOSPITAL
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT – CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To agree the approach to making a response on behalf of the Council to the NHS consultation on the closure of Calderstones Hospital.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To promote and support health, environmental, economic and social wellbeing of people who live, work and visit the Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – To promote healthier environment and lifestyle.
- Other Considerations – To demonstrate that the Council works in partnership with its community.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 NHS England is consulting for a period of 12 weeks in relation to medium secure services for people with a learning disability and/or autistic spectrum disorders (ASD) should be provided across the North West. The closing date for responses is 23 February 2017.

2.2 The consultation builds on the commitment made in “Building the right support” to reduce reliance on inpatient care by developing community services for people with a learning disability and/or ASD. The proposals put forward in the consultation aim to ensure that people with a learning disability and/or ASD will:

- have greater choice in their pathway of care with equal and fair access to services;
- be able to live in a community setting;
- continue to receive care and treatment, closer to home, at the appropriate level to meet their needs;
- receive proactive health care to maintain health and wellbeing; and
- have access to acute assessment services.

2.3 The facility at Calderstones Hospital (formerly known as The Calderstones Partnership) and now provided under the title of The Mersey Care Whalley Site provided medium and low secure services within part of Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust which recently took over service provision. Members will be aware that a large element of the former Calderstones Hospital has already been closed. Services that remain on site care for patients from across the North West although can provide services to a wider area. This consultation seeks to receive views on how low and medium secure services for people with a learning disability and/or ASD should be provided across the North West in the future.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 The consultation is an on-line consultation where documents can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2016/12/consult-propose-close-calderstones/>

A copy of the documentation has been placed in the Members' Room on Level C at the Council Offices.

- 3.2 There are two options being proposed upon which views are sought.

Option 1:

- This option would see the closure of the Mersey Care Whalley Site and the provision of a smaller number of low secure beds across the North West. These would be supported by specialist support teams.
- It is proposed that individuals receiving medium secure care who are currently accommodated on the site that made up Calderstones Partnership NHS Foundation Trust will receive medium secure care at the site being developed at Maghull (Merseyside).

Option 2:

- This option proposes retaining elements of the Mersey Care Whalley estate to provide low secure services with a smaller bed base.

- 3.3 The consultation document indicates that Option 1 is NHS England's preferred option as it follows the vision of "Building the right support". Option 2 is not the preferred option as it would involve maintaining services within an institutionalised setting which is geographically isolated.
- 3.4 Under Option 1 the whole site would be declared surplus and would consequently be looked at for redevelopment by NHS Property Services or elements of the site could be used for localised care provision for which no details or options are available at present. Under Option 2 an element of the site would be retained, the remainder would be released for redevelopment.
- 3.5 The parallel considerations of land use planning will need to be considered at the appropriate time following a decision on the site and are not viewed as an issue in relation to the consideration of this particular consultation exercise. This consultation seeks views in relation to the provision of care.
- 3.6 In the light of the focus of the consultation it is suggested that this Council's response is discussed in detail at the Council's Health and Wellbeing Partnership meeting scheduled for the end of January in order to prepare an appropriate response and that a response is then submitted following consideration by the partnership and in agreement with the Chair of this Committee.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – No resource implications identified.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – There are no issues identified.

- Political – No issues identified.
- Reputation – It is important for the Council to demonstrate its role in representing the local community.
- Equality & Diversity – Discussion of the report under the auspices of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership provides an opportunity to incorporate a wider view on matters of equality and diversity.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Note the consultation and endorse its consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Partnership and ask the Partnership to formulate a response on behalf of the Council to be submitted by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of this Committee.

COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION & HOUSING

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Consultation for the Proposed Redesign of Learning Disability and Autistic Spectrum Disorder Services in the North West – NHS England, December 2016

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.

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