

Proposed Scrutiny Committee's response to the CCGs consultations

Dear Members,

Please find below a draft copy of a possible response to the two consultations being carried out by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

I have tried to reflect the comments and feeling of the meeting. Please pass on any additional comments to Robin Hodds but please be mindful that to be effective we need to keep a clear message addressing the consultation proposals.

Consultation of GP practice premises in Gorleston and Bradwell.

The SC has the following concerns regarding the proposed changes to the GP practice premises in Gorleston and Bradwell:

- Difficulties of access by patients regarding bus routes; distance from local communities in a large geographical area and the cost of travel;
- The loss of local NHS services i.e. GP surgeries within local communities;
- The proposal does not address other practice premises in the geographical area which require upgrading to 21st C standards;
- Patients of the practices were not directly informed or involved in the pre-consultation process;
- That the JPH site is not an appropriate location for a number of reasons. These are: parking which is already problematic, the site will require two bus journeys for many patients which with a family could in excess of £20 to attend a GP appointment.
- The Beacon Park site while offering a green field solution is not ideally placed for the majority of the patients of these three practices in the light of the surgery at Hopton on Sea.
- The Shrublands site is most suited for access and would be in the centre of the areas currently served. Plans and agreements had previously been made for this development with NCC and the former GY & W PCT.
- This would ensure that the new medical centre is best placed to meet the needs of the local community.
- Between 15000 and 20000 patients would be served by this one centre.
 - i) This would require extensive parking and a very large medical centre.
- No changes to the system should be made until all capital funding and sites are confirmed and assured.

The Shape of the system in GY & W

The SC raises the below concerns at this proposal:

- While the SC supports the concept of joined up seamless 24/7 care it is concerned that the drive to make financial cuts (efficiencies) may lead to a system that is not robust or able to meet the needs of local communities.
- Any changes to the provision of beds must be met with a guaranteed investment in dedicated private Care Home beds.

- Current NHS employees may have their terms and conditions of service changed. An assurance that all staff be retained and focused on the 24/7 care service is required.
- Capital funding must be in place to provide 21st C Hubs in Gorleston, Great Yarmouth and the Northern Villages i.e. Martham
- The Northgate Hospital site must have as part of these changes a new medical centre and designated Hub. The committee assumes the relocation of Lawn Avenue practice premises.
- Equity of service across the CCG (GY&W) is assured by the CCG Board. The same service and access must be available across the CCG.
- Intermediate care beds at Beccles is appropriate for Waveney but does not meet the needs of Great Yarmouth. Access is a key issue. A travel distance of over 25/30 miles from the Northern Villages could be expected.
- The Martham Hub needs investment to ensure it has the capacity to meet the growing needs in the Northern Villages. The Core Strategy indicates large housing growth in this area.
- It is imperative that capital funding and land assets are secured before these changes are implemented. The SC would not support any changes without this investment.

I hope this reflects our thoughts. Please keep any comments/corrections brief so that we are able to come to a speedy conclusion at our next meeting on July 15th. These need to be with Robin by the first week in July in order to meet the agenda deadline.

Many thanks,

Bernard

Bernard Williamson
Chair of Scrutiny