

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

29th September 2008



Seizing the Future – scrutiny review process

Report of Head of Overview and Scrutiny

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to advise JHOSC Members of the scrutiny review process, and to set out the background and purpose of the Seizing the Future proposals.

Background

2. Seizing the Future sets out the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) strategic direction for 2008-2013 following a review which it has been conducting over the past nine months, and will include proposals for service re-configuration.

On 2nd September 2008 the Board of County Durham Primary Care Trust approved the CDDFT proposals for public consultation subject to further detail being developed. The full options proposed for consultation are to be presented to the PCT Board at the end of September 2008 - a consultation process will then take place: from 6th October 2008 to 12th January 2009. Appendix 1 attached is the September briefing from the Trust that provides further background.

Information

3. Under Section 244 of the NHS Act 2006, local NHS bodies have a duty to consult local Overview and Scrutiny Committees on proposals for any substantial development of the health service or substantial variation in the provision in their areas. To ensure a strategic and co-ordinated approach to the review the County Durham Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) is establishing a Working Group to develop its response.

Scrutiny review process: County Durham Seizing the Future Health Scrutiny Working Group

4. The County Durham Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Working Group will comprise the Chair and Vice Chairs of the JHOSC, and representatives from each of the seven District Councils in County Durham. Membership and draft Terms of Reference for the group are attached as Appendix 2.

The scrutiny review will consider the evidence and seek the views of a wide range of interested parties and stakeholders, including the communities affected by any proposals over the next three months.

The review will consider all aspects of the proposals including whether they meet the needs of patients, communities and adhere to best practice in terms of clinical outcomes and patient safety and achieve national standards. We will be seeking assurance that the proposals will deliver improved health outcomes and are taking into account accessibility and transport issues. We will also consider whether consultation arrangements are adequate and effective.

A draft project plan for the County Durham Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Working Group is attached as Appendix 3. Regular reporting will be made to the full Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and prior to the submission of a final response to the consultation proposals approval will be sought from JHOSC.

Recommendation

- (i) The JHOSC welcomes the approach being taken and the establishment of the scrutiny Working Group and agrees with the scrutiny process that is being established.

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Appendix 1

Seizing the Future

developing a strategic direction for the next five-years

September 2008 briefing

Welcome to the Seizing the Future newsletter - bringing you the latest news and developments as we work towards establishing a strategic vision for the Trust for the next five years.

Consultation plans agreed in principle

Members of the Foundation Trust Board attended a meeting of County Durham Primary Care Trust (PCT) Board yesterday (Tuesday 02 September) to present plans for the future use of our hospitals as part of the Seizing the Future project.

The Trust asked the PCT Board to support our proposal for a public consultation to take place on the options which have emerged from our nine-month review.

During the presentation, the Trust introduced the aim of the Seizing the Future review to ensure the best services for patients while maximising the use of all of our hospital sites and outlined the national, regional and local challenges behind the case for change.

The Trust discussed how the review is being driven by quality of care and patient safety and highlighted the assessment made by Sir George Alberti during a recent visit and his conclusion that “no change is not an option.”

Following the presentation, the PCT Board discussed and considered the case for change and discussed the implications of leading the consultation process.

The Board agreed in principle to support our proposal to proceed with formal public consultation, subject to further detail being developed.

At this stage discussions are still focussed on the structure of services within the different options and no decisions on the individual sites involved will be made until this work is completed at the end of this month.

Over the next few weeks we will carry out the further work and analysis needed to determine the details of these services included in the options and from which of our hospital sites they will be provided.

The full options proposed for consultation will then be presented to the PCT Board at the end of September.

Consultation details

The consultation, subject to the PCT agreeing our final details, will run for a 14 week period from October 6, 2008 to January 12, 2009.

During this period, a wide ranging programme of communication and engagement will be developed to ensure that everyone with an interest in local hospital services will be able to get involved and have their say.

Any views or comments received will then be taken into account when we report back to the PCT early in 2009.

Any questions

Please send queries to seizingthefuture@cddft.nhs.uk - or use the message board on the Seizing the Future website – <http://seizingthefuture.hub.uk.com>

County Durham Seizing the Future Health Scrutiny Working Group

DRAFT Terms of Reference

Purpose

The County Durham Seizing the Future OSC Working Group has been formed to produce a response to the NHS County Durham (County Durham Primary Care Trust) consultation on County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT) proposals for service reconfiguration: *Seizing the Future*.

Context

Seizing the Future sets out the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trusts strategic direction for 2008-2013 following a review which it has been conducting over the past nine months.

The approach is supported by major clinical service review focussing on the following areas:

- Examination of current services
- Assessment of adherence to clinical outcomes
- Review of achievement of national standards across all services
- Development of service configuration options
- Public consultation

The approach also builds on and takes into account the national dimension (Darzi Review), PCT Commissioning plans and Adult and Community Service plans.

It is suggested that the case for change is informed by:

- Fall in patient numbers and Trust's income expected due to local and national policies namely:
 - Patient choice
 - Payment by Results
 - Increased competition from other providers
 - Practice Based Commissioning
 - Shift of some of Trust's activity to Primary Care setting
 - 18 week patient journey
 - Reduction in time patients spend in hospital

The case for change also includes a number of clinical issues that need to be taken into account namely:

- Cover and pathways for emergency care
 - Emergency medicine on 3 sites
 - Emergency surgery on 2 sites
- Critical care support
- Children's services
- 24/7 diagnostic cover

- Clinical networks for tertiary care –ENT services
- European Working Time Directive
- Operational efficiency variability across sites
- Development of care outside hospitals
- Finance

Public consultation

On 2nd September 2008 the Board of NHS County Durham (County Durham Primary Care Trust) approved the CDDFT proposals for public consultation subject to further detail being developed. The full options proposed for consultation are to be presented to the PCT Board by the end of September 08.

Consultation will be ongoing from 6th October 2008 to 12th January 2009.

Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements

The Seizing the Future Health Scrutiny Working Group Working Group is formed specifically for the purpose of considering the evidence from key stakeholders and producing a response. Once it has completed this task the Working Group established for this purpose will be disbanded.

The Seizing the Future Health Scrutiny Working Group is proposed in accordance with the Secretary of State for Health's Directions to Local Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Health Scrutiny Functions) of 17 July 2003 ("the Directions") for the purposes of formal consultation by the relevant NHS Bodies in relation to the matters referred to at paragraphs 1(a) - (c) of this protocol, and in particular in order to be able to:-

- (a) make comments on the proposals consulted on, to the relevant NHS Bodies under the Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002 ("the Regulations");
- (b) require the relevant NHS Bodies to provide information about the proposals under the Regulations; or
- (c) require an officer of the relevant NHS Bodies to attend before it under the Regulations to answer such questions as appear to it to be necessary for the discharge of its functions in connection with the consultation.

Membership

The Seizing the Future Health Scrutiny Working Group comprises the Chair and Vice Chairs of the County Durham Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a representatives from each District Council in the County.

Members: Cllr A Anderson, Cllr R Burnip, Cllr J Chaplow, Cllr P Crathorne, Cllr T Cooke, Cllr R Harrison, Cllr D Lavin, Cllr S Pitts, Cllr V Williams.

Reporting

The Working Group will report back to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee regularly and on its response to this committee, and prior to submission of the response, at the JHOSC meeting in January 2009.

Meeting arrangements

A project Plan is to be agreed and includes dates of proposed meetings throughout the process.

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

To examine the proposals and consider evidence to assess whether they:

- Meet the needs of our patients, communities and adhere to best practice in terms of clinical outcomes, patient safety and achieve national standards.
- Meet the emerging recommendations of the national review led by Lord Darzi.
- Are in line with PCT commissioning intentions and local health improvement strategies; reflect planning for community infrastructure, respond to the Big Conversation/ Talking Together.
- Identify regional planning implications.
- Demonstrate an effective and clinically driven case for change that meet the need of communities and deliver improved health outcomes.
- Take into account the socio economic implications for change; accessibility, transport.
- Include adequate and effective consultation arrangements.
- Provide value for money

Communication:							
Progress reports to JHOSC							
Press notices: internal/external							
Reporting & Final submission							
Draft response produced (after 11th Dec OSC meeting)							
Final draft sent to OSC Working Group/JHOSC/OSC Management Group/Cabinet for comments							
Final draft considered by OSC Working Group Meeting							
Seek approval from JHOSC on 5th January 2009							
Submission on 12th January 09							