

RESPONSE TO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND EAST OF ENGLAND STRATEGIC HEALTH AUTHORITY

To: Hinchingsbrooke Hospital Joint Health Overview And Scrutiny Committee

Date: 18th July 2007

From: Jane Belman, Health Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Cambridgeshire County Council

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: N/a **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To provide members with the responses from Cambridgeshire County Council and the East of England Strategic Health Authority to the Committee's recommendations that were relevant to their areas of responsibility.

Recommendation: Members are asked to consider the report.

Key Issues The Committee's response to Cambridgeshire PCT's consultation on the future of services currently provided at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital included a number of recommendations that related to the responsibilities of Cambridgeshire County Council Passenger Transport and Adult Support Services and the East of England Strategic Health Authority.

These bodies were therefore invited to respond to the relevant recommendations.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report contains responses to the Committee's recommendations from:
- Cambridgeshire County Council: Passenger Transport Services
 - Cambridgeshire County Council: Adult Support Services
 - East of England Strategic Health Authority

2. RECOMMENDATION 1

- 2.1. *The Committee strongly recommends that a detailed cost-benefit analysis, and business plan, including detailed plans for how outpatient and intermediate care services will be developed, and alternative strategies if the savings are not achieved in the timescale, are drawn up in collaboration with partner agencies, before a decision is taken on the proposals.*

Response: Cambridgeshire County Council Adult Support Services

- 2.2. In line with the strategic direction of Adult Support Services we would want to see the delivery of services that promote independence, control, choice and inclusion for vulnerable people.
- 2.3. Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), the Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trusts (PCT) and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health Trust (MHT) have well established partnership arrangements, underpinned by formal Section 31 agreements. The Section 31 agreements allow:
- the creation of pooled budgets from which both health and social care services can be purchased, and
 - the transfer of functions from one organisation to the other and with this the delegated authority to carry out the statutory duties of the other partner.
- 2.4. Intermediate Care Services for older people will need to be developed and delivered by the PCT under the Section 31 agreement and within the pooled budget arrangements. The Director of Adult Support Services chairs the Adult Joint Commissioning Group which promotes efficient and effective joint working through the implementation of the Section 31 Agreements for all adult client groups and monitors this along with other related contracts and agreements. The development, delivery and effectiveness of intermediate care services will be monitored through this group and Cambridgeshire Care Partnership, which is constituted to provide the governance for the Section 31 agreements.

3. RECOMMENDATION 2

- 3.1. *The Committee recommends that the PCT and Cambridgeshire County Council work with each other, and with patient groups, the Ambulance Trust, District Councils, and with commercial and community transport providers when developing community based outpatient and intermediate care services, to ensure that they are accessible, and that best use is made of available transport resources. Information on what steps will be taken to ensure these services are accessible should be provided to the PCT Board before a decision is taken on the proposals.*

Response: Cambridgeshire County Council Adult Support Services

- 3.2 Please see response to recommendation 1 above

Response: Cambridgeshire County Council Passenger Transport Services

- 3.3. We fully support the intention for all interested stakeholders to work together to maximise service provision and efficiency. It is felt that our Community Transport Schemes may have a role to play in achieving this objective; however, we need more detail before definitive plans could be introduced. Moreover, any additional patient transport undertaken by Community Transport schemes would have to be funded from savings accruing from the current providers. Finally, once more detailed proposals are forthcoming, our Community Transport schemes would have to be assessed to ensure they have the requisite capacity.

4. RECOMMENDATION 4

- 4.1. *The Committee recommends that the PCT and Cambridgeshire County Council work in partnership, and with other agencies, user and carer groups to develop intermediate care services. This should include collaboration on ensuring accessibility to services where these are provided outside the home. The PCT is requested to inform the Committee as to how it plans to achieve this.*

Response: Cambridgeshire County Council Adult Support Services

- 4.2 Please see response to recommendation 1 above.

Response: Cambridgeshire County Council Passenger Transport Services

- 4.3. Please see response to recommendation 2 above.

5. RECOMMENDATION 10

- 5.1. *The Committee recommends that the Strategic Health Authority provide greater technical and business planning support in future to PCTs and hospital trusts that are developing proposals under the acute services review.*

Response: East of England Strategic Health Authority

- 5.2. The SHA agrees with the thrust of this recommendation. Since this consultation started, the Carruthers review has been completed and there is now greater clarity around the amount of preparatory work that should be carried out prior to a consultation. In addition, the Technical Workstream of the Looking to the Future programme will produce a number of reports identifying how issues such as population growth and transport and access should be handled.

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