

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR HEALTH ISSUES	Agenda Item No. 5
19 JULY 2016	Public Report

Report of Stephen Graves, Chief Executive Officer, Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust		
Contact Officer	Jane Pigg, Company Secretary	Tel. 01733 677926
	Jane.Pigg@pbh-tr.nhs.uk	

Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust public engagement on proposed merger with Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update the committee on the work being undertaken regarding the proposed merger of Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the content of this briefing on how the Trust will engage with members of the public, patients and staff on the proposal to merge our Trust with Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust.

3. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 N/A

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In May 2016, the boards of Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust considered an Outline Business Case (OBC) that recommended the merger of the two Trusts.
- 4.2 The boards agreed to the recommendations made in the Outline Business Case that said in order to sustain and improve clinical services for patients and value for money for the taxpayer in Huntingdonshire, Greater Peterborough and South Lincolnshire, both Trusts would benefit from working as one organisation in the future.
- 4.4 They have agreed to work together on a Full Business Case in readiness for a merger on 1 April 2017. This work commenced in June and the boards will consider the Full Business Case in September 2016, with a final sign off planned for November 2016.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 Both hospital trusts are passionate about providing quality services that are better, safer and local and that can be easily accessible to the local population. However there are real challenges. Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust is not sustainable in its current form either clinically or financially. Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was declared clinically and operationally sustainable but not financially sustainable by Monitor in 2013.

- 5.2 Having considered a range of options including doing nothing and joint working, merging the two organisations into one came out clearly as the preferred option to deliver clinically sustainable services and also reduce costs to the taxpayer.
- 5.3 While there will be a cost to merging, we have identified at least £9m of savings to be made per annum, primarily in back office services, which will help improve the deficit position of both organisations in the future.
- 5.4 Both Trusts are fully committed to engaging with staff and members of the public, having started this process in board meetings which were held in public in May.
- 5.5 This engagement will continue through July, August and September as part of a dedicated engagement plan which will be used to help inform the Full Business Case. We are working with the support of Healthwatch Peterborough and Healthwatch Cambridgeshire to gather views and hear any concerns from as many people as possible, whether they are patients, staff or citizens who do not necessarily use our services at present, but want reassurance that they will remain local. The importance of retaining local views in a wider merged organisation is recognised, and one of the early considerations is the need to develop constituencies and governors that will separately represent, and therefore provide views from the three areas surrounding Stamford, Peterborough and Hinchingsbrooke hospitals. This contrasts with the current approach at Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS FT where there is a single public constituency. This development will be included in the engagement plan.
- 5.6 There will be a further period of engagement following a review of the Full Business Case by both trust boards in September, before the final approval in November 2016.
- 5.7 Please note that we are working with doctors and clinicians across the local health and social care economy, as part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Sustainability and Transformation Plan, to provide sustainable and responsive urgent and emergency care and maternity/paediatric services. These areas are not under review as part of our merger plans, but they are being looked at by the wider health economy transformation programme.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This is an issue which will be of interest to all citizens of Peterborough.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 As there are no proposed service changes, both hospital trusts are not required to formally consult on the plan. However, we are committed to engaging with the public and patients and listening and responding to any questions or concerns raised by our wide variety of stakeholders on this issue.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The Commission will be kept updated as part of the engagement process.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 9.1 These are as shown in the appendices

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Appendix 1 Public Board Presentation of Outline Business Case

Appendix 2 Outline Business Case: Merger of Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust and Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust