

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
3 NOVEMBER 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust	
Contact Officer(s):	Dr Kanchan Rege, Deputy Chief Executive Officer	Tel. 01733 678021

UPDATE ON NORTH WEST ANGLIA NHS FOUNDATION TRUST'S GREEN TRAVEL PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS
It is recommended that the Health Scrutiny Committee notes the progress made to date by North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust in moving forward its Green Travel Plan and its future plans within the context of responding to the global pandemic.

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Health Scrutiny Committee following a meeting of the committee held on 21 September 2020.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Scrutiny Committee members on North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust's Green Travel Plan, as requested by the Committee at its recent meeting on 21 September 2020.

2.2 This report is for the Health Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

3. Scrutiny of the NHS and NHS providers.

3. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

3.1 The previous Travel Plan for Peterborough City Hospital and Stamford and Rutland Hospital was prepared in February 2016, prior to the merging of Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust and Peterborough and Stamford NHS Foundation Trust to form North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust in April 2017. Given the merger of the Trusts, the Travel Plan required a review and update to incorporate the additional site and to update baseline data.

The Trust commissioned WS Atkins to prepare an updated Green Travel Plan and Car Parking Management Plan for the three hospital sites (Peterborough City, Hinchingsbrooke and Stamford and Rutland Hospitals).

These reports were prepared having reviewed the current and future challenges and identified clear actions that needed to be addressed in order to better manage the car parking on each hospital site. The car parking issues being experienced on our hospital sites were:

- Insufficient patient parking spaces to meet requirements of current patient and visiting activity
- Insufficient staff parking spaces to meet requirements of working arrangements during peak hours of 8am-4pm
- Different car parking management arrangements on each of our three hospital sites

- Patients being negatively impacted (missing appointment times) due to lack of car parking or ease of access to our car parking facilities
- The Trust is required to have a Green Travel Plan in place to support proposed developments on site
- The Trust is required to meet the climate change agenda.

The Trust Board of Directors was presented with an update on the Green Travel Plan and Parking Management Plan at its meeting in public on 28 January 2020. In that meeting the Trust committed to developing a Steering Group to oversee consultation with patients and staff on car parking issues such as charges, facilities and criteria for staff parking permits being provided. In addition, the Board was told how the Trust was engaging with external organisations, such as local bus company Stagecoach to facilitate travel reductions for NHS staff, and Peterborough City Council to discuss the possibility of an additional entry/exit point on the City Hospital site to reduce traffic congestion at peak times in particular. The Travel Plan can be found on the [NWAngliaFT website](#) and via the link at **Appendix 1** of this report.

Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic

In March 2020, as part of the Trust's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, non-clinical projects were reviewed in order to:

- Maximise resources and refocus staff time on patient-facing activities
- Enable non-patient facing staff to work at home/isolate or shield as necessary

As a result, work to progress the Green Travel Plan and Car Parking Management Plan was paused for a six-month period. In that time the Trust also made parking free for patients, staff and any visitors. Parking charges were reinstated in September for patients and visitors, but the Trust has committed to keeping parking free for staff in this financial year.

Work resumed on the Green Travel Plan and Car Parking Management Plan in September 2020 however, it was noted that during this time, the demand for car parking spaces on our sites, including Peterborough City Hospital, had changed compared with January 2020 – with fewer patients travelling to our sites for face to face appointments, and more staff working at home on a regular basis as part of their revised working arrangements. We expect this situation to continue as we develop new ways of delivering services for patients that will require them to make fewer visits to hospital alongside providing more agile approaches to working remotely for our staff.

Next steps

The Trust is now working on the following actions:

- Appointment of a dedicated Project Manager to lead the Green Travel Plan and Car Parking Management Plan
- Procurement of a Car Parking Management Company that will use Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology
- Undertake a consultation exercise for all car park users to develop an agreed approach for charging
- Resume discussions with Stagecoach bus company
- Resume discussions with local authority regarding an additional entry/exit point to serve the Peterborough City Hospital site
- Finalise Trust Agile Working Policy
- Install electronic charging points on all Trust sites by 31 March 2021
- Revise the Trust car lease scheme for staff by restricting access to vehicles with higher emissions

Potential impact of Urgent Treatment Centre move to the City Hospital site

The Trust is aware that there are concerns that a potential move of Peterborough Urgent Treatment Centre from the City Care Centre in Thorpe Road, Peterborough, to Peterborough City Hospital will create additional pressures on car parking facilities at Peterborough City Hospital.

Currently, the pressures on our public car parks are reduced due to the ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This response has enabled us to develop more options for patients to have their care managed remotely, where appropriate, including through virtual and telephone

appointments – thus reducing the number of patient visits to hospital. This has been well received and therefore will be continued where appropriate when the pandemic period is over. In addition, more Trust staff are working remotely with full access to their working files and Trust meetings thanks to technology and excellent support from our IT Department. We are actively encouraging those staff who can spend a proportion of their working week at home to do so during the pandemic. We anticipate, with the introduction of our new Trust Agile Working Policy, to permit staff to continue working in this way post Covid-19. These two significant changes to the number of people using our buildings, particularly at Peterborough City Hospital, are likely to have a longer term positive impact on the provision of car parking spaces.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 An eight-week consultation run by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group on the proposed relocation of the Peterborough Urgent Treatment Centre from the City Care Centre in Thorpe Road, Peterborough, to Peterborough City Hospital ended on 30 September 2020 and a report is due to be presented to the Health Scrutiny Committee. Within this consultation, we are aware that the issue of car parking provision at the Peterborough City Hospital site has been raised.

In addition, the Trust will undertake formal consultation with car park users – patient groups, staff members and visitors to develop a car parking service that best meets the needs of users as part of its ongoing Green Travel Plan work. The timeline for this exercise is yet to be agreed.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 5.1 This report is for update purposes only

6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 n/a

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 n/a

8. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 8.1 none

Legal Implications

- 8.2 none

Equalities Implications

- 8.3 none

Rural Implications

- 8.4 none

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 9.1 Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
None

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Appendix 1 - [North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust Travel Plan 1.0](#)

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