

**Meeting: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE)**

Date of Meeting: 27 January 2009

Title of Report: NHS Sefton Update

Report of:

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NHS Sefton

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This report contains	Yes	No
CONFIDENTIAL Information/		√
EXEMPT information by virtue of paragraph(s)..... Of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report DELEGATED?	√	

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To formally present the report of NHS Sefton on current issues impacting on healthcare provision in Sefton.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED

Guidance for NHS bodies about how to fulfill their duty to involve patients and the public requires them to take account of feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Local Involvement Networks, as well as from Patient Advice and Liaison Services (PALS), complaints data and annual patients' survey. This expectation helps to bring the different parts of the patient and public involvement framework together.

Health scrutiny is defined as 'acting as a lever to improve the health of local people ... and securing the continuous improvement of health services and services that impact on health.' This is much broader than focusing solely on NHS services, and may be seen to link with the local authority's wider role to

promote social, economic and environmental well-being as well as acting as community leaders. Scrutiny and Review Committees have a role to consider issues as diverse as planning policy, transport and neighbourhood renewal and Health Overview Scrutiny Committees are able to look at health impacts of council services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) to make formal comment on the report.
2. For the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) to arrange to monitor progress of NHS Sefton's actions against any recommendations and proposals contained in the report, if appropriate.

Corporate Objective Monitoring

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1.	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2.	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3.	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4.	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5.	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6.	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7.	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

Financial Implications

	2006/ 2007 £	2007/ 2008 £	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE				
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N			When?	
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report

None

List of Background Papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report

None



NHS Sefton update for Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) January 2009

(A) Better Health Better Life

Time is running out for people to have their say about our plans to improve health and health services over the next five years. The deadline for all views and comments as part of our 'Better Health, Better Life' consultation is 30th January. Thousands of local residents have responded to our questionnaire that we began sending out in November. Others have accessed an online version from our website, with hundreds more filling them out at our 'Better Health, Better Life' events. We even gave people the opportunity to record a video telling us their views at our two recent fun days. All the responses we have received will be collated and used to further shape our five year strategic plan. This includes all the formal responses we have received from our partners, who also have an interest in improving Sefton's health. A final version of our plan will be presented to the NHS Sefton Board in March.

(B) Improving access to primary care

Over the past few months there have been some significant developments in schemes to improve access to primary care services for people right across Sefton. Over 60% of practices now offer extended opening hours. It means many are open for longer on weekdays and on Saturday mornings. Alongside this we have been finalising details for some new primary care services through the national Equitable Access to Primary Care Programme. At the end of December, we awarded the contract for a new practice in Southport to the group of GPs that run St Mark's Medical Centre. The new service, called Trinity Practice, will open on the 1st April at Southport Centre for Health and Wellbeing. While anyone living locally will be able to register at the surgery, Trinity will offer specialist services for more vulnerable local residents, particularly older people in care homes and international workers. Contracts are also being finalised for a GP led health centre based at Litherland Town Hall, as well as a new GP service that will offer a range of supporting primary care services to a number of existing practices in south Sefton.

(C) New GP service for Sefton East parishes

Dr Thompson and Partners at High Pastures Surgery were successful in winning the bid to provide additional GP services in Sefton East Parishes. The service began at the start of November 2008. As part of the new contract the surgery is now open from 8am until 8pm, Monday to Friday and routine appointments on Saturday mornings. The additional service is providing benefits to all patients registered at the practice. In the future they hope to provide outreach medical services in Lydiate.

(D) Update on Thornton GP Practice

Space has now been identified at Thornton Clinic to accommodate Thornton PCT Practice. Before the practice can transfer, some adaptations need to be made at Thornton Clinic. This work is expected to be completed by the end of March. We have been keeping patients informed of these developments.

(E) Patients asked to help us further improve GP services

Around 35,000 Sefton residents are being asked for their views about their level of satisfaction in accessing their local GP services through the third national patient survey. Questionnaires were sent out to a random sample group of patients at the start of the month and their support and response to the survey is vital. We will use the results to help us make further local changes to GP services, to ensure that they provide fast and convenient services. Our drive to increase opening hours was a direct result of what people told us in last year's questionnaire.

(F) Children's walk-in centre

Plans are progressing to develop a children's walk-in treatment centre for north Sefton. We are considering two locations for the centre that will treat minor illnesses and ailments. They are Southport Centre for Health and Wellbeing in the town centre and [the Southport Hospital site](#) at Town Lane. We will be telling people more about our specific proposals and asking for views as part of an engagement process that will begin later this month. Our preferred option would be for Southport Centre for Health and Wellbeing but we will use feedback from the engagement process to make a final decision. The centre could be open [by the end of 2009](#).

(G) Review of patient transport services

A review is underway of Patient Transport Services (PTS) across the North West. PTS is the non-emergency transport of patients with a medical need to and from premises providing NHS healthcare and between NHS healthcare providers. At present there are over 70 contracts in place each with different access, quality standards, service models and pricing structure. The review has six key objectives for improvement to ensure that PTS is able to provide an effective and efficient service:

- ✓ to ensure consistent and fair access to different transport modalities
- ✓ to move from a finance driven to a quality driven agenda
- ✓ increased patient focus and flexibility of service provision
- ✓ to explore opportunities for co-operation with other agencies and authorities
- ✓ to raise the status of Patient Transport Services across the health community
- ✓ to meet the rising expectations of user groups

Initially, a baseline assessment of the current service delivery and associated arrangements will be undertaken by an external consultant. This will inform the development of a model service specification for implementation across the North West. We will provide updates to committee members as the programme develops.

(H) NHS Sefton Board meeting

The next public meeting of our Board takes place on Thursday 29th January, 1.30pm. It is being held at Parkhaven Trust in Maghull.

<p>For further information about any of the items in this paper please contact Lyn Cooke, Head of Communications at Sefton PCT on 0151 479 6518</p>
