

EXTERNAL SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE - UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE STANDARDS

Committee name	External Services Select Committee
Officer reporting	Nikki O'Halloran, Chief Executive's Office
Papers with report	None
Ward	n/a

HEADLINES

To enable the Committee to receive an update on the implementation of congenital heart disease standards.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the External Services Select Committee notes the report.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Congenital Heart Disease in London

In November 2017, the NHS England board made decisions regarding the future provision of congenital heart disease (CHD) services for children and adults. These commissioning decisions were made to ensure that the service meets the nationally agreed standards required now and in the future. The board decisions described in detail what was expected to happen in each region of the country where CHD level 1 services are provided.

In London there are 3 providers of CHD services:

- Guys & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, with the children's services provided in the Evelina Children's Hospital and adult services provided also on the St Thomas' site;
- Great Ormond St NHS Foundation Trust and Barts NHS Trust providing children's and adults care together as joint service across the two sites; and
- Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust providing children's and adults services at the Chelsea site.

The consultation proposed that the services that the Royal Brompton provided for children would be decommissioned as they did not meet the standards required, which stated that other specialist children's services should be provided on the same site, known as paediatric colocation. The Board decision on potential decommissioning of CHD services at the Royal Brompton would have impact on all other services for children provided on the same site, primarily respiratory, and they would also need to move.

The proposal from The Royal Brompton and Kings Health Partners

In London, a proposal had been received during the CHD consultation that outlined a high level plan to combine CHD services provided by The Royal Brompton and Harefield (RBH) NHS

Foundation Trust from the Chelsea site, and the Guy's and St Thomas's (GSTT) NHS Foundation Trust, and deliver these services from existing and new facilities based at the Westminster Campus – opposite the Houses of Parliament.

The NHS England decision in regard to this proposal was that RBH with GSTT and Kings College NHS Foundation Trust, under the auspices of Kings Health Partners (KHP), should be allowed to further develop and deliver their proposals in line with a timeline described in the NHS England board papers.

NHS England's Board decision included a timeline to monitor progress of the programme of work, this included:

- requirement for RBH to submit a strategic outline case (SOC) by 30 June 2018 (met)
- that there is an OBC (now called a Strategic Case) by November 2019
- and full paediatric colocation is achieved by April 2022.

The RBH / KHP proposal will involve a considerable reconfiguration of services if supported. NHS England will also need to look at all viable options available to achieve the colocation of paediatric services, to ensure that the option chosen is the best one. The movement of the CHD services would mean that the paediatric respiratory services also provided at the Royal Brompton would need to move as they would no longer be sustainable at the Chelsea site.

RBH is also proposing that all the other services provided at the Chelsea site would also move to the Westminster campus to create a world leading Paediatric, Cardiovascular and Respiratory centre of excellence. The capital required to develop the 'centre of excellence' will come primarily from the sale of the Royal Brompton Fulham Road site. There will be no changes to the Harefield Hospital as a result of this proposal which is also managed by the Royal Brompton.

Any movement of services from the Royal Brompton site in order to achieve the Congenital Heart Disease paediatric colocation standards will have impact on CHD patients and families; and other services at the Royal Brompton impacting on the patients who use them and the clinicians who provide this care. These impacts and the benefits of any move need to be considered fully; alongside any financial implications and the sustainability of all services provided, in the form of a case for change and pre-consultation business case to be produced by NHS England.

The proposal from Imperial and Chelsea and Westminster Hospitals

On 28 November 2018, NHS England received an alternative proposition to the RBH/KHP proposal. This came from a partnership made up of Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Imperial College London. This proposition can be viewed here: <https://www.imperial.nhs.uk/about-us/news/proposal-to-improve-heart-and-lung-care-and-research>

The current process

NHS England London region, operating under the direction of the NHS England board, has been assessing all the options to deliver the CHD standards, in doing so they are working with the organisations involved to develop further their proposals to enable them to be considered more fully.

Any change will be significant for healthcare in London and will impact on communities, patients, families and clinicians over a wide geography, as the Royal Brompton provide care for those with specialist conditions from the south east and up into the south midlands.

A set of metrics and hurdle criteria were being developed so that any change delivers real benefits to the healthcare for London and also ensures the best use of financial and clinical resources.

A number of groups have been put in place to ensure that there is appropriate governance and contribution from specialists, and input from specific stakeholder groups concerned about any potential change. A Patient and Public Voice Group has been meeting and is made up of charities representing the interest of patients and families of particular conditions and of those who use the services of Royal Brompton and other provider trusts whose care may be impacted. A wider stakeholder engagement approach was also underway to ensure that the proposed changes are widely known about.