

Health Scrutiny Panel

28 April 2016

Report title	An Update Regarding the NHS Learning Disability In-patient provision at Pond Lane Hospital which is provided by the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Sandra Samuels	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Steven Marshall, Director of Strategy and Transformation	
Originating service	Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group	
Accountable employee(s)	Sarah Fellows Tel Email	Mental Health Commissioning Manager 01902 444878 sarahfellows2@nhs.net
Report to be/has been considered by	Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group Commissioning Committee	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Panel is recommended to:

1. Recommendations for approval:

The Health Scrutiny Panel is asked to approve:

The plan to embark upon a joint consultation process regarding the relocation of the three Assessment and Treatment Learning Disability In-patient beds at Pond Lane Hospital to existing In-patient Hospital based services within the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust in Dudley, Walsall and Sandwell.

2. Recommendations for noting:

The Health Scrutiny Panel is asked to note:

The Consultation Plan which describes the engagement and consultation with process service users and carers, staff, key stakeholders and the general public as outlined in Appendix 1.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Health Scrutiny Panel with an update regarding the NHS Learning Disability In-patient provision at Pond Lane Hospital including a plan to formally consult regarding the closure of In-patient services on this site and their relocation to alternative provision in Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall and the associated key next steps.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Pond lane is a five bedded assessment and treatment unit situated in the Park Fields area of Wolverhampton. As a hospital site it is isolated from any of the other BCPFT services including In-patient provision. The service provides specialist assessment and treatment In-patient services to male and female adults with learning disabilities and additional complex health needs, such as autistic spectrum disorders, mental health difficulties and / or challenging behaviour.
- 2.2 Working with the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group the Black Country Mental Health Partnership Trust wishes to relocate the three Pond Lane In-patient beds to services provided at Dudley, Sandwell, and Wolverhampton. This will involve the closure of the three In-patient beds at Pond Lane. This action is required because the very low numbers of beds provided within the service are somewhat isolated from other Trust services and this raises environmental, clinical and staffing safety concerns which are impacting upon the delivery of the service to this very vulnerable group. A clinically safer and more viable service could be provided from the BCPFT Learning Disability In-patient services in Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall where other Wolverhampton patients are in receipt of In-patient services currently. All of these services are less isolated; provide a critical mass of service provision that offers clinically and environmentally safer services, and all are easy accessible by public transport.
- 2.3 In recent years Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group has reduced the level of commissioned activity at Pond Lane Hospital from five beds to three in line with reduced levels of demand for Wolverhampton patients. Reduction in bed numbers is in keeping with the “Transforming Care- national response to Winterbourne View” which will require a reduction in bed based services for people with a learning disability and / or autism. The revenue from the reduced bed based capacity at Pond Lane is already being invested in an alternative community model which will deliver assertive outreach support and interventions providing increased care and support for patients and their families from Wolverhampton in their own homes. In addition to this local service development Wolverhampton CCG is part of the Black Country Transforming Care Partnership which has developed and submitted a robust implementation plan to NHS England which will

deliver further service change and transformation over the next three years resulting in more community based services including bespoke packages of care.

3.0 Progress

- 3.1 A service specification has been developed for the Wolverhampton Community Model which is expected to be in place by June 2016.
- 3.2 A consultation plan for the service user and carer and staff and stakeholder and general public consultation is attached as Appendix 1. This has been jointly produced by the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Communications Teams. The Local Authority will be a key stakeholder in the consultation process as will other health and social care partners.
- 3.3 A Quality Impact Assessment developed by the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group is attached as Appendix 2. The QIA highlights the current difficulties experienced by the service at Pond Lane. The QIA also highlights that increased travel time for patient's visitors to the re-located services will require special consideration and mitigation to reduce the impact upon service user and carer experience to a minimum.

4.0 Moving Forwards

- 4.1 The Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation trust seek approval to commence the Consultation Plan as outlined in Appendix 1. This process will include working with service user and carer and advocacy services to secure engagement with current and future service users and their carers, staff, the general public and all relevant stakeholders in our health and social care economy.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 Reduction in bed based activity at Pond Lane in 15/16 and 16/17 has released investment for community based services. A service specification for an assertive outreach model has been developed and is being pro-actively recruited to. The remaining revenue invested in bed based services at Pond Lane will be used to purchase beds in the BCPFT in-patient services outlined in the table below:

LOCATION	BCPFT HOSPITAL SITE
Dudley	The Ridge Hill Centre Brierley Hill Road Nr. Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 5ST
Sandwell	Penrose House Heath Lane Hospital Heath Lane West Bromwich B71 2BG
Walsall	Orchard Hills Fallowfield Road Walsall WS5 3DY

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 Both the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust have a legal duty to consult regarding this significant service change which involves a re-location of services and this process is being undertaken jointly as outlined in the Consultation Plan in Appendix 1.

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 outlines the Public Sector Equality Duty to engage with relevant individuals regarding key decisions. A period of consultation will be required as outlined in Appendix 1.

8.0 Environmental implications

8.1 There are currently no environmental implications associated with this report.

9.0 Human resources implications

9.1 Staff will be consulted as part of the consultation and management of change processes.

10.0 Corporate landlord implications

10.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

11.0 Schedule of background papers

- 11.1 The Consultation Plan is attached as Appendix 1.
The Quality Impact assessment is attached as Appendix 2.