

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 MARCH 2018
INPATIENT DETOXIFICATION SERVICES
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider proposals for the future of inpatient detoxification services for City residents.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- a) consider the information available regarding the proposal for future provision of inpatient detoxification services for Nottingham residents;
- b) decide whether it considers the proposal for future provision of inpatient detoxification services to be a 'substantial variation of services' for Nottingham residents; and
- c) either provide comments and/or recommendations, or decide to seek further information/ have further discussions before making comments and/or recommendations on the proposal.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Inpatient detoxification services are commissioned by Nottingham City Council and currently provided by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust at The Woodlands Unit on the Highbury Hospital site.
- 3.2 In November 2017 the Committee heard from Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust that the costs of providing inpatient services at The Woodlands exceed the income that the Trust receives for the services provided there and that it could not continue to run the current service model within available resources. Therefore the Trust was reviewing whether it could continue to provide the service, potentially under a different service model, or if the Unit would close. The Trust provided a further update to the Committee in January 2018.
- 3.3 In November and January Nottingham City Council commissioners informed the Committee of their work with the Trust to explore options for alternative models to enable The Woodlands to remain open, but also to explore alternative options for access to high quality inpatient services by City residents that also deliver value for money. This work included reviewing need, including through planned engagement with service

users and carers and carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment. Commissioners stated that inpatient detoxification services are an important part of the pathway for citizens who are unable to safely detox in the community and that they believe there is an ongoing need for access to inpatient detoxification services.

- 3.4 The Committee welcomed the intention to extend the current City contract with Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust until the end of May 2018 to allow time for commissioners to secure alternative provision, if required, to minimise risks to service users.
- 3.5 During consideration of this issue, the Committee has also heard evidence from the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust's Consultant Addiction Psychiatrist and received representations from Double Impact and the Local Medical Committee.
- 3.6 Based on the information available to it, in January 2018 the Committee concluded that it did not want to see The Woodlands Unit close. However at its Trust Board meeting on 25 January the Trust agreed not to seek to renew or further extend contracts for specialist inpatient detoxification services run at The Woodlands beyond 31 May 2018 and said that it would continue to work with City commissioners to ensure a safe transition of service provision to an alternative provider.
- 3.7 In the event of this scenario, and based on the information available to it, the Committee encouraged commissioners to look towards commissioning local NHS-supported provision for inpatient services.
- 3.8 At its meeting on 22 February, the Portfolio Holder for Adults and Health informed the Committee of a proposal for a £98,000 reduction in funding for inpatient drug and alcohol detoxification services.
- 3.9 As requested by the Committee, commissioners will be attending this meeting to present the proposal for future access to inpatient detoxification services by City residents. A paper outlining work that has taken place/ is planned in relation to consultation and engagement and assessing equality impacts; options for alternative provision considered; and the proposal for future provision is attached.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 'Inpatient Drug and Alcohol Detoxification Services'

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 All

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Reports to and minutes of meetings of the Health Scrutiny Committee held on 23 November 2017, 18 January 2018 and 22 February 2018.

Minutes of the Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust Board meeting held on 25 January 2018

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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