

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL
28 MAY 2014
GP PRACTICE CHANGE – MERGER OF BOULEVARD MEDICAL CENTRE AND BEECHDALE SURGERY
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. **Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide information on GP practice changes - merger between Boulevard Medical Centre and Beechdale Surgery.

2. **Action required**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the information provided.

3. **Background information**

- 3.1 NHS England Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Area Team has advised of changes to two GP practices in Nottingham – merger of Boulevard Medical Centre and Beechdale Surgery. A report outlining the changes is attached.
- 3.2 It is not intended that a representative of NHS England Area Team will attend the meeting to discuss the changes outlined in the report. If a Panel member has a particular issue that they wish to raise in relation to this change they should contact Jane Garrard, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator as soon as possible in advance of the meeting.

4. **List of attached information**

- 4.1 The following information can be found in the appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – Proposed merger of Beechdale Surgery and Boulevard Medical Centre – update 15/05/2014 from NHS England Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Area Team

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

None

6. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

7. **Wards affected**

All

8. **Contact information**

Jane Garrard, Overview and Scrutiny Review Co-ordinator
Tel: 0115 8764315
Email: jane.garrard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Area Team

**Proposed merger of Beechdale Surgery and Boulevard Medical Centre:
Update 15/05/2014**

Introduction:

Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Area Team has received an application proposing the merger two practices Beechdale Surgery (439 Beechdale Road, Nottingham, NG8 3LF) and (635 Western Boulevard, Nottingham, NG8 5GS). Both of these practices are constituents of Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group.

Beechdale Surgery and Boulevard Medical Centre are located approximately 1 mile apart in the north-west side of Nottingham City on and near to a main 'A' road respectively.

Beechdale Surgery has approximately 4000 patients and operates from a premise within a parade of shops. Dr M Bicknell is senior partner of the contract; the practice has 3 GPs in total which provide 2.0 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) GP time.

Boulevard Medical Centre has approximately 1750 patients; it is a single GP contract with Dr Kachroo. Dr Kachroo is keen to secure the future arrangements for the practice in the context of his pending retirement.

The premise currently utilised by Boulevard Medical Centre is a 1930s converted house that requires redevelopment and investment in order to meet the standards now required for Primary Medical Services.

Proposal

The practices have jointly approached the NHS England Area Team to seek permission to merge the practice; this proposal requests the continuation of both contracts on a separate basis and the continuation of both practice premises- accordingly this does not require patients to change the arrangements for how to access Primary Medical Services. If approval is given, the Beechdale Medical Group will be formed in September 2014.

In considering this application, Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Area Team have sought the view of Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group. Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group is in development for the Primary Care Strategy within

the area. The Clinical Commissioning Group has indicated that this change would fit with the Primary Care Strategy as their preference would be support the merger in this form, this being preferential to Boulevard Medical Centre continuing as a single handed practice.

Impact/benefits for local population

The main benefit to patients is the continuation of core services from the current premises for the patients of Boulevard Medical Centre. The proposal for premise improvement will enhance the quality of the service and accessibility.

The merger will also improve Boulevard Medical Centre patients access to a range of services provided outside of core contract; these included additional Enhanced Services and services commissioned under the Any Qualified Provider (AQO) model from Nottingham City CCG such as Treatment Room services, Ear Syringing, Phlebotomy, and ECG.

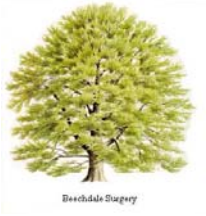
The merger will enable patients of both practices to have the flexibility to be seen at either premises, and will also provide an increase choice of clinicians for patients to consult with.

There are no plans to make changes to the current arrangements for appointment systems, opening hours and practice boundaries as a result of the merger.

Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Area Team Area Team consideration:

The Area Team considered this application at the Primary Care Panel on 17 May 2014. The Area Team has given its support to this application subject to the following conditions:

- Both practices are expected to complete a period of engagement with patients and stakeholders on the future arrangements for patient services to ensure full awareness of the changes.
- The practices have confirmed to the Area Team arrangements to ensure appropriate medical cover will be in place following the planned retirement of Dr Kachroo.



Stakeholders of Beechdale Surgery and Boulevard Medical Centre

DRAFT – TIMESCALES TBC

Key aims of the engagement:

1. To ensure all affected parties are aware of the change
2. To create a mechanism for receiving feedback on the merger
3. To address any key concerns raised by stakeholder and assess if these viable to be incorporated into any future plans for the practice
4. To establish a basis of concerns and aspirations on which to feedback to any stakeholder groups following the merger

Stakeholder group	How we plan to engage with the group	When or how completed
Registered patient population at Beechdale Surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on website - Notification on practice electronic notice board - Leaflets within the waiting room - Notification on repeat prescription slip - Patient Participation Group 	
Registered patient population of Boulevard Medical Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on website - Leaflets within the waiting room - Patient Participation Group 	

	- Notification on repeat prescription slip	
Practice staff	Written letter to each staff member and opportunity for further discussion as follow up	
Patient Participation Group of each practice	Joint Meeting of both Patient Participation Groups	
Nottinghamshire LMC	Verbal and written approval	
District Councillors	Letter to Councillor Alex Norris (Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board) Letter to Councillor Glyn Jenkins	
Local MP	Letter to Mr Graham Allen, MP	
Health and Wellbeing Board	Letter to Councillor Alex Norris and personal meeting by request	
Nottinghamshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Letter	
Neighbouring practices / other constituent practices of CCG	Letter to Dr Arun Tangri, Dr Safiy Karim and Dr Hugh Porter Cluster Chairs, Nottingham City CCG	
Healthwatch	Letter	
Local community pharmacies of both practices	Letter	
Any other local health providers as applicable	Letter to the Chief Executive and Medical Director of the local Healthcare Trust	



Dear Patient

Proposed Merger – Beechdale Surgery and Boulevard Medical Practice

We are writing to you as a patient registered with Beechdale Surgery or Boulevard Medical Centre to advise you of plans to merge the two surgeries together under the umbrella organisation of the Beechdale Medical Group.

We are proposing to join these two practices together to form a new merged practice from 1st July 2014. We want to share with you the reasons why we think these changes will benefit patients from both practices and are also keen to hear your views on this.

The context for this is as the patients at the Boulevard Medical Centre are probably aware, Dr Kachroo has reached a point in his career when he wishes to take his retirement, having served his practice population for many years and of course wishes to ensure the continuance of excellent medical care and services for all of his patients.

The Beechdale Medical Group will continue to maintain medical services at both sites, continuing to operate as the Beechdale Surgery and the Boulevard Medical Centre. Telephone access and opening times will remain unchanged but patients from either surgery will also be able to obtain appointments and services from either surgery according to desire and convenience.

As part of this process we believe that patients will benefit from access to a greater range of appointments and clinical skills across the two medical teams and will also be able to obtain extra clinical services that are offered at either site. A new joint practice booklet will be produced to outline what each surgery has to offer

We will be ensuring that all patients affected by the proposed changes have the chance to keep up to date with the latest news and have the opportunity to raise questions to share views with members of the practice teams. We will use the feedback we receive to consider how the new practice will work in the future. We

believe it's important that everybody's views are considered, so please do take the time to let your practice team know your views.

We will be holding open sessions where you can come along and speak to members of both practices and to NHS England representatives. These will take place on the following days:

Event 1 – Boulevard Medical Centre – TBC

Event 2 – Beechdale Surgery – TBC

To ensure that we have adequate provision for the numbers attending, please could you notify your attendance to either Beechdale Surgery on 0115 929 0754 or the Boulevard Medical Centre on 0115 978 6557

If you have any specific access requirement for these events please confirm these on booking e.g. hearing loop.

Information about the proposal will be on display in the practice waiting room and the practice team will also be able to help you with any queries.

You can have your say in a number of ways:

Write to Dr Marcus Bicknell at Beechdale Surgery, 439 Beechdale Road, Nottingham, NG8 3LF

Write to Dr Maharaj Kachroo at Boulevard Medical Centre, 635 Western Boulevard, Nottingham, NG8 5GS.

You can also email the practices via their Practice Managers:

usha.kachroo@gp-C84650.nhs.uk (Boulevard Medical Centre)

amanda.magee@gp-C84704.nhs.uk (Beechdale Surgery)

- Write to Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Area Team (part of NHS England) at:

**Primary Care Commissioning
Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Area Team
Birch House, Ransom Wood Business Park
Southwell Road West
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG21 0HJ**

- Email Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Area Team (part of NHS England) on e.derbyshirenotttinghamshire-gpnotts@nhs.net
- Attend the open events:
 - Event 1 – Boulevard Medical Centre – Thursday 25th April 2014 2 pm
 - Event 2 – Beechdale Surgery – Thursday 9th May 2014 – 2 pm

We will be looking forward to hearing from you, meeting you personally if you so desire and to working together for the improvement and maintenance of your future health and wellbeing needs.

Yours sincerely

Dr Marcus Bicknell & Dr Maharaj Kachroo