

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)**

**Date: 28 November 2013**

**Subject: GP Services at Woodlands Surgery, Chapeltown, Leeds**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: 10.4.3	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. On 29 October 2013, the Chair of the Scrutiny Board received notification that NHS England (West Yorkshire) had taken the decision to terminate the Woodlands Surgery GP practice contract.
2. NHS England stated that the Woodlands Surgery in Chapeltown had been receiving guidance from the NHS England (West Yorkshire) and previously from NHS Leeds (the former primary care trust) because it had not been meeting the requirements of the GMS contract.
3. At that time, NHS England also stated the care of Woodlands Surgery's patients would still be provided on the current premises but this would be delivered by another GP practice group (St Martin's Practice) and that in the short-term NHS England would be contacting all patients registered at Woodlands Surgery and working with partner organisations, including NHS Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group, to help decide the future of the Woodlands Surgery.
4. At that time, NHS England was asked to respond to the following questions:
  - (a) When will the termination come into effect?
  - (b) What difference will patients see at the practice?
  - (c) In the immediate future, what information will patients be given when arriving for pre-planned appointments and/or seeking to make future appointments?
  - (d) Have local ward members been informed/ advised?
  - (e) Have any Executive Board Members been informed/ advised?
  - (f) Are there any other Leeds-based GPs receiving 'guidance' from NHS England? If so, which ones and how long have they been receiving such guidance.

(g) Are there any (suggested) arrangements in place to ensure the Scrutiny Board Chair is made aware of any future potential GP performance issues across Leeds – prior to termination becoming the agreed course of action?

5. After further discussions with the Chair of the Scrutiny Board, these questions were supplemented/ revised to help understand the potential scale/ impact related to this specific closure, but also to consider arrangements for early notification of any performance issues for all service providers commissioned in/ for the people of Leeds. As such, the following requests/ questions were submitted:
  - Could you also provide details of the number of registered patients at the practice – perhaps broken down into male/ female with some sort of age profile (if readily available).
  - Are there any (suggested) arrangements in place to ensure, that at an early stage, the Scrutiny Board Chair is made aware of any future performance issues across all service providers commissioned by NHSE in/ for the people of Leeds.
6. On 15 November 2013, the Chair of the Scrutiny Board received a further letter from NHS England (West Yorkshire) advising of its decision to close the Woodlands Surgery on 6 December 2013. This was accompanied by a response to the original questions posed on 29 October 2013 and a public information sheet for patients currently registered at the Woodlands Surgery. These details are appended to this report.
7. Following a briefing meeting with NHS England (West Yorkshire) on 22 November 2013 and given the timescales associated with the proposed actions, it was decided to bring this matter to the attention of the Scrutiny Board for consideration at its meeting on 28 November 2013.
8. Appropriate representatives have been invited to attend the meeting to assist the Scrutiny Board in its deliberations.

## **Recommendations**

9. The Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) is asked to consider the information presented and discussed at the meeting and;
  - Make any recommendations it feels appropriate; and
  - Identify any matters that warrant further and/or more detailed scrutiny.

## **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

10. None used.

---

<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.