

Position Statement in relation to the availability and provision of healthy food options at health care establishments across the City, November 2014.

The Director of Public Health and colleagues have addressed the above matter with Brian Young, Head of Facilities (Contracts) at Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust (LTH).

The sale of food and drink is an important issue for LTH and they work closely with their retailers to take positive steps to ensure their hospitals provide a wide range of products, including healthier options for their patients, visitors and staff.

Some examples of the progress made by LTH include:

- Fresh fruit is included in the 'meal deal'
- Fruit and water is included in the 'up-sale league table'
- Bottled water is provided at a lower cost than all sugary drinks
- Water remains the most popular drink choice within their hospitals.

Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust is constantly reviewing opportunities to reduce the range of sugary drinks and snacks and this forms part of all tendering processes. Recent tender specifications for retail catering and vending contracts include the following stipulations to prospective contractors:

“Services proposed for the retail outlets and restaurants must match the customer’s expectations of a consistently varied, balanced, healthy, nutritious and attractive offer.”

“Enhancing the impulse purchase experience of our patients, staff and visitors is extremely important to the Trust and as such the offer needs to fit in with our health and wellbeing strategy. We aim to provide the customers affordable branded healthy options for them to choose, that they recognise and enjoy”.

Public Health is a priority for LTH which is working closely with Public Health to encourage staff, visitors and patients to make healthy choices which are right for each stage of life and are supported by campaigns such as Smart Swaps and Nutrition and Hydration Week. A new Public Health Strategy for the LTH has been developed which includes actions to address obesity. The LTH Public Health Strategy will be raised at the next Health & Wellbeing Board.

As Leeds hospital premises also include those provided by Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LYPFT), The Director of Public Health and colleagues have discussed the matter with Helen Wiseman (Strategic Lead for Allied Health Professionals) at LYPFT.

LYPFT provides services from a number of premises through the Leeds area, the main inpatient services are delivered from PFI estate. Two of these locations have café facilities within them, but these have been closed for some time. LYPFT and their PFI partners are currently working with a social enterprise organisation to re-open these facilities. LYPFT are working closely with the social enterprise to provide a wide range of products, including healthier options. All of this includes the

promotion and availability of healthy choice sandwiches and meals, and an alternative snack and beverage range to the traditional 'sugary' options. Staff catering outlets and vending machines operated by LYPFT and PFI operators all offer fruit, fruit juices, bottled water, 'healthy food ranges,' and alternative snack options with price ranges that 'favour' these options. LYPFT and its partners constantly review product ranges and work closely with dieticians to ensure a good balance of health products are available for our outlets.