



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care)

Date: 21 April 2015

Subject: Children's Epilepsy Surgery Services – Public Consultation (March 2015)

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: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. At its meeting on 24 March 2015, the Scrutiny Board considered NHS England's consultation on a proposed set of principles to underpin the future decision making process for investment in specialised services. The Scrutiny Board's response to this consultation is currently being drafted.
2. Later that same day (i.e. 24 March 2015), NHS England launched a further 30-day public consultation on a number of clinical commissioning policies and service specifications for specialised services. This is detailed and considered elsewhere on the agenda.
3. On 26 March 2015, NHS England launched a public consultation on proposed changes to its service specification for children's epilepsy surgery services. This specification was first adopted in May 2013.
4. Consultation will last for three months, between March 26 and 18 June 2015. However, due to the nature and operation of the Council's health scrutiny function (which is not dissimilar to the majority of other local authorities with health scrutiny responsibilities), the current Scrutiny Board will cease to exist after 21 May 2015 (the Annual Council meeting), therefore in order to respond to the consultation, it is necessary to consider the proposals at this juncture.
5. NHS England has produced an accompanying consultation guide (Appendix 1), containing additional information about the rationale behind the proposed changes. The guide is intended to help those with an interest in these services to make an informed contribution to the consultation.

6. In addition, in March/ April 2014, the previous Scrutiny Board considered issues around the delivery of children's epilepsy surgery services following concerns raised by clinicians at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT). Relevant details from discussions at that time are currently being collated and will be presented to the Scrutiny Board prior to the meeting.
7. Appropriate representative from NHS England and LTHT has been invited to attend the meeting to assist the Scrutiny Board in its consideration of this area.

Recommendations

8. The Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) is asked to:
 - a. Consider the information presented and identify how it may wish to respond to the consultation while formally constituted and ahead of the 18 June 2015 deadline.
 - b. Identify any specific matters that warrant further scrutiny activity and/or additional action.

Background papers¹

9. None used

¹ 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.