

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber)

Date: 5 July 2017

Subject: Proposals to implement standards for congenital heart disease for children and adults in England – consultation

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

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce NHS England's consultation on its proposals to implement standards for congenital heart disease (CHD) for children and adults in England

2 Background

2.1 In June 2013, the Secretary of State for Health accepted a report and recommendations (in full) from the Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) and called a halt to the former Safe and Sustainable Review of Children's Congenital Heart Surgery Services in England.

2.2 A new CHD review, covering the whole lifetime pathway of care, commenced in July 2013 and public consultation on proposed CHD service specifications and draft standards took place between September 2014 and December 2014. The Joint Committee's submission to that consultation is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

2.3 In mid-2015 NHS England agreed and published the new set of quality standards for all hospitals providing congenital heart disease.

2.4 In order to ensure the best outcomes for patients, the standards set out the need for surgeons to do a minimum of 125 cases per year, the equivalent of three per week. They also require that there should be a minimum of three surgeons in the team to cover the workload 24 hours a day, rising to four surgeons per team by April 2021. To make sure critically ill children receive the full range of support, the

standards also specify that specialist children's cardiac services must also only be delivered where there are also a wider range of other paediatric specialities present on the same hospital site.

2.5 NHS England is now seeking views and input on specific proposals and how the standards can be put into practice.

3 Main issues

3.1 On 9 February 2017, NHS England has today launched a public consultation on how it will put in place new standards for hospitals providing congenital heart disease services in England. The consultation was originally planned to run for 16 weeks, until Monday 5 June 2017. However, following the announcement of the recent General Election and the subsequent restrictions around engagement activity by public bodies (including the NHS), the consultation has been extended until xxxx.

3.2 At the time of launching the consultation, NHS England outlined the aim was to gather as many views as possible from patients, families and clinical experts and will include face to face meetings around the country, webinars and an online survey.

3.3 A copy of the NHS England consultation document is attached at Appendix 1.

3.4 To help the Joint Committee consider the proposals, representatives from NHS England have been invited to attend the meeting to present the proposals in more detail and address any questions from members of the Joint Committee.

3.5 In addition, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT) and Children's Heart Surgery Fund (CHSF) have been invited to attend the meeting and/or make any written submissions to assist the Joint Committee's consideration of the proposals. In this regard, a submission from CHSF is attached at Appendix 3, to help inform the Joint Committee's consideration of the proposals.

4 Recommendations

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to consider the details and proposals set out in the consultation and agree the outline of any response to the consultation and the specific consultation questions posed.

5 Background papers¹

5.1 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.