

**Medicine Division  
Specialty Medicine Directorate  
Dermatology Services**

**Briefing paper for Scrutiny Board Tuesday 16th March 2010**

LTHT intends to continue to provide dedicated Dermatology inpatient beds, the continued need for these beds and the need for skilled nursing staff is recognised. LTHT is seeking to reprovide the inpatient beds to another ward location within the Trust.

There is no proposal to change the level of service or support provided to this patient population.

A set of clinical criteria has been produced, led by the Dermatology consultants which has been used as the basis for determining and assessing future options for Dermatology inpatient beds.

A lead Matron has been dedicated to this project on a full time basis initially for 3 months January to March 2010. In close liaison with patients, consultants and the nursing team a draft options paper has been produced for further comments by key stakeholders before completion.

There have been on-going discussions with patients, consultants and the nursing team about the proposed re-provision of up to ten dermatology beds from Ward 43 LGI to another ward location within LTHT.

As part of this project an accommodation appraisal, for the in-patient bed base to move to a location within the LTHT that is suitable for staff and patients, has been carried out. Options for the out patient department to move near/adjacent to the in-patient bed base, has also commenced.

There has been communication on a weekly basis with the ward nursing and medical teams. There has also been communication with the Leeds Dermatology Patient Panel (LDPP) via the chairman, on a two weekly basis, with attendance by the project lead and senior LTHT managers at LDPP monthly meetings.

The Dermatology consultant medical team, eight members of the LDPP and a number of the ward 43 nurses have visited the potential ward area at Chapel Allerton Hospital. In addition the Senior Nurse, in charge of Dermatology Out-patients, has visited potential sites at Chapel Allerton Hospital available to house an outpatient department.

The Leeds Dermatology Patient Panel members are working closely with the project lead to ensure strong and effective communication is developed and maintained.

**Judith Lund  
Directorate Manager  
March 2010**