

## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

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

**Date: 10 April 2013**

**Subject: Children's Congenital Heart Services: Service Provision at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):		
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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Not applicable		
Appendix number: Not applicable		

### Summary of main issues

1. Following recent media reports, highlighting concerns raised by the Children's Heart Federation (CHF) regarding clinical practices and services on the children's cardiac surgery unit at Leeds Children's Hospital, the Chair of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) (JHOSC) wrote to the Chief Executive of CHF, inviting her to attend the meeting. A copy of this letter is attached at Appendix 1.
2. The CHF concerns highlighted in the media had been reported to the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Consequently, the regional office of the CQC was contacted in order to understand and seek assurance around the CQC's processes and outcome of its deliberations around the matters raised. The CQC was invited to provide this assurance to members of the JHOSC at the meeting.
3. Quite separate to the arrangements in hand for the JHOSC to consider current clinical practice at Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust (LTHT), on 28 March 2013 LTHT issued a statement outlining its decision to temporarily pause children's cardiac surgery and associated interventions, following discussions with senior representatives from NHS England and the CQC earlier that day. The statement (attached at Appendix 2) also outlined that the Trust had agreed to carry out an internal review independently validated and supported by external experts, to look at all aspects of congenital cardiac surgery for children undertaken at the unit in Leeds.
4. Representatives from LTHT have been invited to attend the meeting to outline its decision and associated matters in more detail.

5. Notwithstanding the statement issued by LTHT, further information has come to light around the Trust's decision to temporarily pause children's cardiac surgery and associated interventions. Information includes the following:
  - Copy of an email from the Chair of the Central Cardiac Audit Database (CCAD) Steering Committee to the Chair of the National Institute for Clinical Outcomes Research (NICOR) Executive Committee (Appendix 3); and,
  - Statement from the British Congenital Cardiac Association (BCCA) (Appendix 4)
6. To help the JHOSC consider the attached information and the developing situation, a range of organisations/ contributors are being invited to attend the meeting. These include:
  - The NHS Commissioning Board (NHS England)
  - The Central Cardiac Audit Database (CCAD) Steering Committee
  - The National Institute for Clinical Outcomes Research (NICOR) Executive Committee
  - The British Congenital Cardiac Association (BCCA)
  - The Care Quality Commission (CQC) national office
  - The NHS Trust Development Authority (NHS TDA)
7. It should be noted that due to the changing nature of the circumstances, those attending cannot be confirmed at this time. Further details will be provided at the meeting.

## **Recommendations**

8. That the JHOSC considers the information presented and determines any appropriate actions and/or scrutiny activity at this stage.

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

9. None

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<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.