

Maternal health provision in Leeds

Date: 19 July 2022

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

- During its meeting in April 2022, the previous Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles) discussed proposals to utilise the July Scrutiny Board meeting to receive an update on maternal health provision, including:
 - An update on the Leeds Maternity Strategy work;
 - The current position of the Leeds Fertility IVF service; and,
 - The implications of the Ockenden Review findings and how any recommendations are being taken forward across the local maternity system in Leeds.
- This report sets out details to provide a maternal health provision update.

Recommendations

Members are asked to consider and note the details presented in this report, the associated appendices and discussed at the meeting, recommending any specific further scrutiny activity to the Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles).

What is this report about?

- 1 During the previous municipal year, the Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles) identified the July Scrutiny Board meeting to receive an update on maternal health provision, including an update on the Leeds Maternity Strategy work; the current position of the Leeds Fertility IVF service; the implications of the Ockenden Review findings and how any recommendations are being taken forward across the local maternity system in Leeds.

Leeds Maternity Strategy

- 2 In March 2021, the Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board had received a report on women's health in Leeds, which included a focus on maternal health and referenced the work being undertaken by the Maternity Strategy Programme Board to refresh the Leeds Maternity Strategy based around the following five key priorities

- Preparation for parenthood;
- Personalised care;
- Perinatal mental health;
- The maternity reconfiguration; and
- Reducing health inequalities.

Leeds Fertility IVF service

- 3 During this same meeting in March 2021, the Board also considered a report on the Leeds Fertility IVF service which included proposals to explore and test the market for opportunities to grow and sustain the service in light of a changing competitive market in Leeds.

Ockenden Report (2022)

- 4 In March 2022, the [final report](#) into maternity services at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust was published. Referred to as the Ockenden Review, the report covers a review of services spanning the period from 2000 to 2019. The review was originally commissioned by the then Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt MP at the end of 2016, with Donna Ockenden being asked to lead the review, which in the summer of 2017, comprised 23 families. Emerging findings and recommendations were published in the [first report](#), in December 2020.
- 5 The March 2022 report builds on the December 2020 report, emphasising the importance of progressing the identified local actions for learning (LAfL) and immediate and essential actions (IEAs) to be implemented at the trust and across the wider maternity system in England. However, it also identifies a number of new themes to be shared across all maternity services in England as a matter of urgency to bring about positive and essential change.

Ockenden Assurance

- 6 At its meeting on 31 March 2022, the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT) Board received and considered an assurance report, outlining the Trust's response to the Ockenden report and associated recommendations.
- 7 The LTHT report and associated appendices, together with the minutes from that meeting are appended to this report for members consideration.

Updates to the Scrutiny Board

- 8 In addition to the details presented above and set out in the appendices to this report, representatives from LTHT will be in attendance at the meeting to provide specific updates on the above matters and address any queries from members of the Scrutiny Board.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 9 The details presented in this report and the associated appendices will assist the Scrutiny Board in examining in more detail a specific aspect of health and care services in Leeds, identified by the former Board in 2021/22.
- 10 This report also assists the Scrutiny Board in its discharge of its health scrutiny functions, a special responsibility delegated to the Scrutiny Board by Council.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 11 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Board promotes a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on best city objectives. The Scrutiny Board also has special responsibility for discharging the Council's statutory health function, which includes any matters associated with the planning, delivery and operation of local health services.
- 12 Considering the details within this report and its appendices helps the Scrutiny Board fulfil its responsibilities to discharge its general and specific responsibilities.
- 13 Details within this report and its appendices also form part of the delivery of maternal health services across Leeds that directly impact on the health and wellbeing of Leeds citizens and its communities.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 14 In considering the information presented in this report and outlined at the meeting, the Scrutiny Board may wish to consider the levels of involvement, engagement and consultation undertaken by the appropriate health and care bodies.

What are the resource implications?

- 15 There are no specific resource implications associated with providing these details to the Scrutiny Board. Any proposed recommendations identified by the Scrutiny Board may have resource implications that require a full assessment.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 16 There is a requirement on the Council's Scrutiny Officer to annually report to Council on how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions, as set out in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 17 Presenting the details within this report and its appendices, supports delivery of the Scrutiny Board's annual work schedule for 2022/23 and will assist in presenting the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2022/23 to Council.

What are the legal implications?

- 18 There are no specific legal implications associated with report, however any proposed recommendations identified by the Scrutiny Board may have legal implications that require a full assessment.

- 19 In addition, and more generally, under current legislation, NHS bodies must consult with the appropriate local authorities where there are any proposed substantial developments or variations in the provisions of health services (substantial service reconfiguration) in the area(s) of a local authority under consideration.
- 20 As such, in considering the information presented in this report and outlined at the meeting, the Scrutiny Board may wish to consider the levels of involvement, engagement and consultation undertaken by the appropriate health and care bodies

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 21 The details in this report and its appendices have been provided on the request of the Scrutiny Board. No other options have been considered.

How will success be measured?

- 22 The Scrutiny Board is recommended to consider the details presented in this report, the associated appendices and discussed at the meeting, in order to determine any further specific scrutiny activity.
- 23 There is also a requirement on the Council's Scrutiny Officer to annually report to Council on how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions, as set out in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 24 The details in this report the associated appendices and discussed at the meeting, present factual information in relation to maternal health provision in Leeds. As such, there are no associated implementation requirements at this stage.
- 25 Any further activities and/or proposed recommendations identified by the Scrutiny Board may require a full assessment prior to implementation.

Appendices

- LTHT Ockenden Assurance Report and Appendices (31 March 2022) – Appendix 1.
- LTHT Trust Board minutes from 31 March 2022 – Appendix 2

Background papers

- None