

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

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

Date: 22 September 2011

Subject: Proposed Reconfiguration of Children’s Congenital Heart Services in England: Submissions from Members of Parliament (Yorkshire and the Humber)

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: Not applicable Appendix number: Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee HOSC (Yorkshire and the Humber) forms the statutory overview and scrutiny body to consider and respond to the proposed reconfiguration of Children’s Congenital Heart Services in England – taking into account the potential impact on children and families across the region. HOSCs have been given until 5 October 2011 to respond to the proposals.
2. In considering the proposals set out in the *Safe and Sustainable Consultation Document: A new vision for Children’s Congenital Heart Services in England (March 2011)*, Members of the Joint HOSC have sought to consider a wide range of evidence and engage with a range of key stakeholders.
3. On 8 September 2011, Members of Parliament from across Yorkshire and the Humber were invited to provide any comments to the Joint HOSC, with a view to these being included in the Joint HOSC’s formal response to the review. The purpose of this report is to introduce any submissions received for consideration. Submissions received to date are attached at Appendix 1. Any other submissions will be made available as soon as practicable.

Recommendations

4. Members are asked to consider the details associated with this report and identify/ agree any specific matters for inclusion in the Committee’s report to be presented to JCPCT later in the year

Background documents

- A new vision for Children’s Congenital Heart Services in England (March 2011)

**Comments from Members of Parliament representing constituencies
across Yorkshire and the Humber**

Philip Davies, MP for Shipley

"It is vital to keep the children's heart surgery unit at Leeds because it is accessible to people living throughout Yorkshire. I know from my constituents just how much this service is valued and used by local people - it is hard enough to have a child so poorly they need to use this service but then to have to travel miles away to be treated would put a tremendous strain on families struggling to support their children, work, possibly care for other children at home and any other commitments they may have.

Notice should be taken of Recommendation 178 of the Bristol Inquiry which states:

Children's acute hospital services should ideally be located in a children's hospital, which should be physically as close as possible to an acute general hospital. This should be the preferred model for the future.

Notice should also be taken of the petition supporting the children's heart surgery unit in Leeds - 600,000 signatures should be taken into account."

Julian Smith, MP for Skipton and Ripon

Letter attached.

Michael Dugher, MP for Barnsley East

"Thank you for the opportunity to submit to you my concerns about the 'Safe' and Sustainable' Service Review into the future of children's congenital cardiac services.

On the 28th June, I wrote to Jeremy Glyde, the Safe and Sustainable Programme Director with my response to their consultation. On behalf of my constituents I pressed the case for retaining the service at Leeds General Infirmary. I have enclosed a copy of that submission for you and hope that you will be able to included the comments and concerns of people from Barnsley in your regional response to the review." (Letter attached)