

Report of the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Bootham Park Hospital Scrutiny Review Final Report – Cover Report

Summary

1. This report presents the Executive with the final report of the Bootham Park Hospital Scrutiny Review (Appendix 1) and information around actions taken to restore full mental health services to York.

Background

2. Bootham Park Hospital (BPH) was closed following an unannounced inspection of the psychiatric inpatient services by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in September 2015. The CQC reaffirmed that the service being provided to patients from Bootham Park Hospital at this time was not fit for purpose and that all clinical services had to be relocated from 30 September 2015.
3. On 20 October 2015 the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee met to consider the circumstances leading to the closure of Bootham Park Hospital and heard evidence from NHS Property Services; Leeds and York Partnership Foundation Trust; Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust; the Care Quality Commission and the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group (VoY CCG).
4. As a consequence the Committee agreed to write to the Secretary of State for Health supporting a call for an inquiry / urgent investigation into the hospital's closure.
5. At a meeting on 24 November 2015 the Committee agreed to carry out its own review of the Bootham Park Hospital closure utilising the support of an Independent Expert Adviser, John Ransford, who provided his services on a pro bono basis, and NHS England who were carrying out their own lessons learned review (See Annex 1 to Appendix 1).

6. The Committee also agreed that delegated authority be given to the Chair and (now former) Vice-Chair to set the parameters of the review and they agreed the remit: *“To understand the circumstances leading to the closure of Bootham Park Hospital, to establish what could have been done to avoid the gap in services in York, particularly for in-patients and their families, and identify any appropriate actions for relevant partners.”* A Task Group was later established to help carry out this work on behalf of the Committee.

Consultation

7. The Task Group, Independent Adviser and Scrutiny Officer have consulted extensively with NHS England who have in turn been involved in detailed consultation with the partner organisations. The Committee has also been able to question all health partners about the circumstances leading to the closure of BPH. Furthermore, Healthwatch York carried out a major piece of work on behalf of the Committee to gauge the impact of the BPH closure on people who use mental health services in the city, their families, carers and staff (See Annex 2 to Appendix 1).

Analysis

8. Over a series of meetings involving NHS England and all health partners the Task Group and Independent Expert gathered information in support of the scrutiny review. The final report at Appendix 1 and its associated annexes contain a full analysis of the information gathered, including the action plans of the health organisations involved (See Annex 3 to Appendix 1), conclusions and the Task Group recommendations, which were endorsed by the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee at their meeting in late September 2016. At this meeting the Committee agreed to amend Recommendation (iii) in paragraph 70 from “A detailed memorandum of understanding to avoid the sudden closure of facilities on the grounds of serious quality or safety concerns should be shared with the Committee within a month” to “Commissioning agents sign up to an understanding that they are more proactive in engaging with people to avoid the sudden closure of health facilities.”

Review Recommendations

9. Having considered the evidence gathered in support of the Bootham Park Hospital Scrutiny Review the Health and Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee endorsed the following Task Group recommendations.

10. NHS England should ensure that:
 - i. The NHS nominates a named person to be responsible for the overall programme of sustained improvements to mental health services in York. That person to provide regular progress reports to the Council and meet this Committee when requested to review progress;
 - ii. Specific details are provided of all mental health services currently provided or planned in the City of York area, with timescales for provision or replacement where appropriate;
 - iii. Commissioning agents sign up to an understanding that they are more proactive in engaging with people to avoid the sudden closure of health facilities.
11. Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust and the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group:
 - iv. Carry out a full and robust consultation process ahead of the procurement of a new mental health unit in York and that details are shared with this Committee.
12. The Care Quality Commission:
 - iv. Should consider varying its internal processes so that there is a procedure for service transfers between providers, rather than treating them as a full deregistration and re-registration procedure.

Committee Recommendations

13. In addition, at their meeting in late September the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee also agreed that:
 - i. The Final Report and its recommendations be referred to the Executive and the Health & Wellbeing Board for endorsement and consideration as appropriate, prior to forwarding them to NHS England.
 - ii. Copies of the final report be sent to all the organisations mentioned in the recommendations in paragraphs 10 to 12, above.
 - iii. Ask those organisations mentioned in the recommendations to respond to the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee within three months.

Council Plan

14. This report is linked to the Focus on Frontline Services and A Council That Listens to Residents elements of the Council Plan 2015-2019.

Risks and Implications

15. There are no risks or implications associated with this report. The risks and implications associated with the review recommendations are detailed in paragraphs 75 and 76 of the final report at Appendix 1.

Recommendation

16. The Executive is asked to endorse the recommendations made in the final report.

Reason: So Members are aware of the work undertaken by the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee in relation to the closure of Bootham Park Hospital and the measures taken to re-establish services in York.

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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Appendix – Appendix 1, Bootham Park Hospital Final Report