
2 October 2019

**To: The Chair and Members of the Cumbria
Health Scrutiny Committee**

Dear Member

Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee – Monday 7 October 2019

Further to the agenda for the above meeting please find attached agenda item 10 –
Healthcare for the Future Update which was marked ‘to follow’.

Yours sincerely

L Harker

LYNN HARKER
Senior Democratic Services Officer

This page is intentionally left blank



North Cumbria
Clinical Commissioning Group

Healthcare For The Future Update

NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group
Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee
7th Oct 2019

1. Introduction

The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Health Scrutiny Committee on the progress made on outstanding developments following the Healthcare For the Future Consultation.

The public consultation was held September to December 2016, with decisions made in March 2017.

2. Stroke Services

The building work for the purpose built Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) at the Cumberland Infirmary Carlisle (CIC) has been completed and is now operating for patients who would have received their treatment in Carlisle.

The unit will build up to being fully operational with the inclusion of patients from west Cumbria to follow.

The changes were agreed to modernise and improve the care provided to stroke patients across north Cumbria by developing an enhanced service, not previously available, which has been proven to improve mortality and reduce long term disability in other areas.

The CCG's Implementation Reference Group (IRefG) agreed the unit should progress once issues have been resolved in the following areas:

- i) Workforce
- ii) Estates
- iii) CT Scanner provision
- iv) Patient pathway

The full opening will mean that all potential stroke patients are initially brought to the unit at CIC for a maximum of 72 hours where they will have access to a specialist stroke team made up of consultants, nurses and therapists 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The patient will then be discharged home with support there from the Early Supported Stroke Discharge (ESSD) and the Integrated Care Community (ICC) teams, or they may remain in hospital either on the ward next to the HASU at CIC, or if they are from West Cumbria, they can be transferred back to the stroke ward at the West Cumberland Hospital (WCH) for ongoing care and rehabilitation.

The new pathway has been designed with the aim of all patients being seen by a stroke specialist sooner than they would currently. The trust has previously been running two five day services at CIC and WCH which is not in line with national best practice.

There has been considerable work over the last two years to develop the HASU including the design of the unit, recruitment of additional specialist staff and the development of the new ESSD team in Copeland and Workington to support patients at home, or closer to home.

This has improved our ability to recruit specialist staff. After years of being unable to fill vacancies, the trust has now recruited two new consultants to the team due to the introduction of our new model. One consultant is in post and another joins in the next two weeks. The team has also recruited a trainee advanced nurse practitioner, clinical nurse educator and 10 new nurses.

A second permanent CT scanner is planned for installation in summer 2020, with additional temporary facilities currently on site.

For more information contact...

Julie Clayton
Head of Communications and Engagement

tel. 01768 245490
email. julie.clayton@northcumbriaccg.nhs.uk

This page is intentionally left blank