

HUMBER ACUTE SERVICES REVIEW – UPDATE (SEPTEMBER 2020)

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Humber Acute Services Review and to provide members with an overview of future plans and next steps.

Background

2. The Humber Acute Services Review is a collaborative review of hospital services across the two acute trusts in the Humber region; Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust (NLaG) and Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (HUTH).

3. Work to Date

Case for Change

4. Over the latter part of 2019, an extensive evaluation of the current provision of hospital services across the Humber was undertaken, which highlighted a number of challenges for providing effective care across our region. The details are set out in the published [Case for Change](#) document.

Clinical Senate Report

5. In January 2020, we welcomed a site visit from the Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Senate¹, where they had the opportunity to speak with members of hospital staff and clinicians delivering services to help them better understand the geography, challenges and potential solutions identified as part of the review.
6. The [Clinical Senate report](#) provides useful independent clinical insight and perspective on the challenges facing hospital services locally; and gives us an opportunity to incorporate these views into our future plans.
7. The report also presents a series of recommendations for consideration, including:
 - The need to prioritise frailty pathways within our future clinical models – to ensure effective care for those with frailty in our communities is available across the region.
 - The importance of exploring solutions as a whole system with a focus on increasing care in the non-hospital settings to support proposals for acute hospital services.
 - Improving the compatibility of IT between the two trusts and prioritising digital solutions to support patient care in non-hospital settings.

8. These recommendations are being considered as part of the work to develop future proposals for services.

Covid-19

9. In March 2020, some of the work being undertaken as part of the Humber Acute Services Review was temporarily paused. This was to enable partner organisations to respond to the immediate challenges posed by the Covid-19 outbreak.
10. Part of the response to Covid-19 required our hospitals to make rapid changes to their ways of working and in some cases, physical layout. This resulted in many services being temporarily suspended or delivered in different ways, including through an increase in the use of virtual and telephone consultations. These changes and the continued challenges of delivering acute hospital

¹ More information on the Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Senate can be found on their website.
<http://www.yhsenate.nhs.uk/index.php>

services in a Covid-19 environment, represent a significant change to the context within which the review is now operating.

11. Evaluation of these changes is ongoing, including engagement with patients and the public. Where there is potential benefit from new ways of working implemented in response to Covid-19, we will seek to incorporate these changes into longer-term proposals.

Current work and next steps

12. A presentation will be provided at the meeting to give further detail to members of the work that will be undertaken over the next three, six and twelve months. This includes work to set out our vision for the future of an integrated health and care offer for all residents.
13. The Humber Acute Services Review is taking place across the following related programmes of work that are running in parallel:

Programme one (Interim Clinical Plan)

14. We have identified a number of priority service areas where urgent service transformation is required. The following services were identified as the most vulnerable prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and will therefore be the focus of detailed planning over the coming weeks and months:

- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Ear Nose and Throat (ENT)
- Gastroenterology
- Haematology
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Respiratory
- Specialist paediatrics
- Urology

15. Changes are needed in these priority services over the next two years, to ensure they can continue to be delivered safely. We plan to develop the changes needed in three stages; and more detail on the Interim Clinical Plan is set out in the [stakeholder summary](#).

Programme two (Hospital Services for the Future)

16. Alongside the interim clinical plan, we will continue to define the long-term strategy for hospital services across the Humber region. This will include continuing the options development work started prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

17. The focus of this work will be on agreeing new and sustainable service models across the key hospital service areas of:

- Urgent and Emergency Care,
- Maternity and Paediatrics
- Planned Care

18. We remain committed to continue our engagement with patients, citizens, staff and other stakeholders in each of the four 'places' (local authority areas) to improve hospitals services and join up out of hospital care.

Programme three (Building Better Places)

19. In addition, we are working with a wide range of partners including local authorities, universities, Local Enterprise Partnerships and development partners on proposals to develop our hospital estate and deliver very significant, wide ranging benefits in each of the four areas across the Humber.

20. We are seeking approval to develop a large-scale capital investment plan for our hospital estate across the Humber that will support better clinical care but also make a significant contribution to the wider economic regeneration of the region.
21. More details are set out in the Creating a Healthier Humber prospectus, available [here](#). Further updates on this programme area will be provided in the future.

Engagement and Consultation

22. Our [Commitment to Engagement](#) sets out the Humber, Coast and Vale Health and Care Partnership pledge to stakeholder involvement and engagement across all of our work. We remain committed to this approach and to continuously engage with patients, citizens, staff and other stakeholders as an integral part of the Humber Acute Services Review.
23. Some of our previous engagement work has included:
 - In November 2018, established a Citizen's Panel to ensure the voices of local populations are heard, to help inform the development and approaches for our broader engagement work and patient-facing information.
 - In early 2019, a series of specialty-specific focus groups seeking views from patients, their families and carers who had accessed services within the clinical specialities under review. A comprehensive report detailing the feedback is available [here](#).
 - During October 2019, patient and public engagement seeking feedback, views and opinions on potential clinical models for Urgent and Emergency Care, Maternity and Paediatrics and Planned Care. The feedback report for this work is available [here](#).
 - Throughout 2019, worked in partnership with Humber and Wolds Rural Action to undertake targeted engagement with diverse and seldom heard groups and individuals to ensure they were aware of and able to engage with the work of the review. The feedback report is available [here](#).
24. Currently, we are working closely with the NHS Trusts and CCG colleagues to develop and refine engagement plans to ensure patients and all key stakeholders are appropriately involved in any changes identified through the Interim Clinical Plan (Programme 1). This continuous engagement exercise is expected to continue into the first quarter of 2021.
25. We are also working closely with all partners, including Healthwatch and the Voluntary and Community Sector to develop a detailed and extensive communications and engagement plan to understand patient and public views relation to Hospital Services for the Future (Programme 2). We are also seeking external, independent assurance from the Consultation Institute throughout this process.
26. We will continue to involve, engage and consult (where necessary) with all relevant stakeholders, including local authority Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees on any proposals for specific service changes that may impact on how, when and where patients might access services and receive treatment.

Conclusion and recommendations

27. This report and associated attachments provide an update on the progress of the Humber Acute Services Review, alongside the future plans and next steps.
28. Members are asked to consider and note the details presented and determine any specific future scrutiny activity.

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Background Papers

Interim Clinical Plan – Stakeholder Summary (September 2020), available [here](#)

The Clinical Senate report (May 2020), available [here](#)

Creating a Healthier Humber prospectus (May 2020), available [here](#)

Humber Acute Services Review: Targeted Engagement Report (February 2020), available [here](#).

Humber Acute Services Review: Case for Change (November 2019), available [here](#)

Hospitals Services for the Future: Humber Acute Services Review, Patient Workshop Feedback Report (November 2019), available [here](#).

Hospitals Services for the Future: Humber Acute Services Review, Focus Group Feedback Report (April 2019), available [here](#).

Humber Coast and Vale Commitment to Engagement (August 2017), available [here](#)