

Northern Burn Care Network
(including North Wales & the Isle of Man)



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To: Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairs -
Please see Distribution List below

16 December 2008

Dear Colleagues

**Northern Burn Care Network Service Configuration for
Determining 'Centre-level' Care Providers
OSC Chairs Event – 2 February 2009
Cedar Court Hotel, Wakefield**

I am writing to you in my role as Chairman of the Northern Burn Care Network (NBCN) to invite to you to an event for OSC Chairs. The NBCN covers the geographical area of the North of England, North of Wales and the Isle of Man and spans three Strategic Health Authorities, NHS North West, NHS North East, NHS Yorkshire and the Humber as well as Health Commission Wales.

The NBCN was established approximately 12 months ago following a national review of Burn Care Services across England and Wales. The network which is lead by clinicians is responsible for overseeing the quality of Burn Care Services across the North of England and North Wales, how services are meeting the new National Burn Care Standards and providing clinical advice to the Specialist Commissioning Groups in each of the three SHA areas who are responsible for commissioning specialist services to meet the needs of their local populations.

The new Burn Care Standards require the relatively small number of patients (15 children and 38 adults) with the most severe/complex burns to be treated in Burn Centres where the centralisation of clinical expertise and support can lead to improved outcomes for patients. The NBCN is currently engaged in a process to decide the number of patients who will require centre level care,

how many centres should be designated across the North of England, North Wales and the Isle of Mann and where these centres should be located. The outcome of this work and the recommendations for centre level care in the northern network need to be with the National Burn Care Group by 16 June 2009.

Currently the main burn care providers across the network are:

- St Helen's and Knowsley NHS trust
- Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust
- Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust
- University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
- Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust – Pinderfields Hospital
- Sheffield Children's Hospital NHS Trust
- Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- The Newcastle Upon Tyne NHS Foundation Trust
- South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust

In addition to the above there are other hospitals that provide care for people with minor burns.

All of the above providers will continue to provide burn services in the future but only a small number (yet to be determined) will also be designated Burn Centres for adults and children and provide care to those most severely burned.

As with any proposed service change I am keen to engage in a conversation with Overview and Scrutiny Committees responsible for the areas that could be affected by these changes. This is primarily to give you an early briefing on the work we have undertaken so far, to answer any questions you may have on the reasons for these changes, to share with you the process we are going through to decide on the number and location of Burn Centres and to secure your advice and support in taking these changes forward.

You may recall that you were invited to stakeholder engagement events held in Wakefield, Liverpool and Newcastle on 20, 21 and 24 October respectively. Four OSCs were represented at these events, three of which were from the North East. There are over 50 Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs) across the Northern Burn Care Network.

The Department of Health has advised that an event for OSC Chairs would be an appropriate and pragmatic way for us to engage with you. We have discussed this approach with a small number of OSC Chairs and they have been supportive.

I hope you agree that it is essential that OSC Chairs have the opportunity to meet together and discuss these proposed changes. I should therefore like to invite you to attend an event to be held from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the 2 February 2009 at the Cedar Court Hotel, Wakefield (just off junction 39 of the M1). This will provide the opportunity for you to meet the network team and for us to discuss in more detail the proposed changes to Burn Care Services. The event will be co-chaired by three OSC Chairs – one from each of the Network's geographical patches – Yorkshire and the Humber, the North West and the North East.

I do hope that you are able to attend and contribute to what is a very important development for Burn Care Services both within this Network and the whole of England and Wales.

I should be grateful if you would confirm your attendance to Karen Scott, PA to Jayne Andrew, Network Manager on Karen.scott@shsc.nhs.uk no later than **26 January 2009**. In the meantime, if you have any queries regarding the above or wish to discuss further then please do not hesitate to contact Jayne on 0114 226 3912.

Yours faithfully

Mike Potts
Northern Burn Care Network Chair

Distribution List

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cc: David McNally - NHS North West
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Jayne Andrew – Northern Burn Care Network Manager