

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Health & Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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**Date of Meeting:** 14 June 2012  
**Report of:** Andy Bacon (CECPCT)  
**Subject/Title:** Knutsford Integrated Health and Wellbeing Centre

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report needs to be seen in the context of an aspiration for a greater integration of care between health (in its many forms: GP, community, hospital and, physical and mental health) and social care. The whole community is rallying around this vision which seeks to improve the quality of care whilst increasing the effectiveness with which resources are used.
- 1.2 The vision for integrated care is that 'Your GP, Your Specialist and their teams will be working together for Your care in Your town'. This will be enabled by the creation of a Health and Well Being Centre that will be a purpose designed and built facility housing GPs and other professionals, with a wide range of services under one roof, supporting them to work differently together with patients and carers in Knutsford. The centre will provide a great opportunity for communal access to all the professionals who can meet local health and social care needs. It will facilitate those people to share information and their different skills to care for patients more effectively through a team approach that is enhanced by being in the same building. It will ensure direct access to services in Knutsford that are aimed at helping you to get the best health and life outcomes that you can with a team of people who patients know, and who know them.
- 1.3 The paper places the options for public engagement and consultation in the context of significant past and recent discussions about the future of public services and buildings in and around Knutsford. It also suggests that other smaller and parallel consultations take place in a coordinated (but separate) way.
- 1.4 A new method of consultation is needed, as this procurement will place nearly all the risk on the private/independent sector (unlike past PFI and other 3PD schemes). Therefore the eventual developer (selected by competitive tender) will have significant autonomy as to how the services are provided and what services beyond a mandated core are provided.
- 1.5 The report looks at a range of options and seeks to find a balance between making best use of public resources and providing the opportunity for in-depth engagement with the affected population and giving them real say for them in the evaluation criteria and before any decisions are made.

### 2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That there be a formal consultation on the future of health and social care services based in Knutsford, that follows a period of engagement with the population over their needs and explaining the potential benefits to them of new ways of delivering care.
- 2.2 The outcome of the consultation would be that the public would have input into the evaluation criteria for the new health and social care centre, early enough to affect the outcome.

2.3 That this consultation be dealt with separately from the application of East Cheshire NHS Trust to become a Foundation Trust, because this covers a different population and is a relatively unrelated activity.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

3.1 There is a legal requirement to consult on major service changes, which this would be.

3.2 This is the most cost effective way to have timely and appropriate engagement and consultation.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

4.1 Knutsford, Mobberley and surrounding area

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

5.1 Stewart Gardiner, Olivia Hunter, Peter Raynes, Jamie Macrae

### **6.0 Policy Implications**

6.1 The outcome of this consultation and any subsequent procurement could affect

- the Council's buildings policy
- the location and delivery of adults' and children's services
- the commissioning of adults' and children's services through the Council's budgets and those using personalised budgets

### **7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)**

7.1 There are no immediate financial implications for Cheshire East, as the costs of the consultation would fall to the NHS. However if the outcome were the sale of the Bexton Road Site this could generate income or capital for the revenue.

### **8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

8.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2001 gives the Council a statutory role to undertake health scrutiny. This enables the Scrutiny Committee to respond to consultations by local NHS bodies on substantial variations or developments of health services as well as having a general overview of broader health issues. The role of scrutiny in relation to these proposals is:

- To be formally consulted on the proposals;
- To be confident that the engagement and consultation processes with the public and patients are sufficient and allow enough time for people to submit their views;
- To be assured that the proposals are in the interests of the local health and social care services.

At the end of the consultation period, the Scrutiny Committee can take a view on the engagement and consultation processes and has the power to refer the issue to the Secretary of State if it is felt that these processes have been inadequate. This is very much a last resort and every effort should be made to reach local agreement.

### **9.0 Risk Management**

9.1 There is a risk register for the overall programme. However the main risk with this consultation is that the public do not wish to have change and this will make Knutsford services increasingly unsustainable.

### **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 There have been numerous past consultations and most recently one that affected the Stanley Centre and Stanley House.
- 10.2 Alternative Options will lead to increased costs, delays and possible confusion in the public's mind.

#### **11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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