

Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Relocation of Outpatient Clinics from Handforth Clinic

Additional Content for requested Briefing note

Following attendance at the June Overview and Scrutiny Committee the CCG was asked to explore in further detail access availability to alternative providers.

1. How do people access Handforth Health Centre Outpatient Clinics now?

A survey of patients attending Handforth Health Centre showed that the overarching majority use car travel now (88%) with small numbers using the bus or walking (4%). This would suggest that in light of the relatively local provision, outlined in the original paper, that there would have a limited impact on usage.

	BUS	CAR	MOBILITY TRANSPORT	TAXI	WALKED	Grand Total
sk9	2	19			2	23
sk12		13				13
wa16		1				1
sk11		1	1			2
sk6				1		1
sk7		1				1
sk8		4				4
sk10		1				1
cw12		2				2
	2	42	1	1	2	48

2. NHS Funded transport support

As described in the initial paper there are two ways the NHS would support a patient's transport to attend the appointments proposed to be transferred:

a. Patient Transport

This service will collect, from their home, patients who would have difficulty attending their appointment using other transport forms due to their mobility or health issues. There is no charge for using this service it is funded by the local CCG.

b. Hospital Travel Cost Scheme

Where a patient is eligible for means tested benefits as they are on a low income they can recover the costs of their travel.

3. Volunteer Driver Scheme

Following the discussion with the OSC members at the June meeting further research has been undertaken which has identified that there is no volunteer driver scheme in the Wilmslow and Handforth locality. East Cheshire NHS Trust and NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG would be happy to work with Cheshire East Council in engaging with the voluntary sector to try and stimulate the development of such a service. However, based on the analysis in section 1 the demand for a service of this nature may be more limited than perhaps was forecast.

The CCG has made a number of observations as part of the current consultation in relation to bus services in Cheshire East.

4. Capacity for patients in the services to be transferred is retained

The original paper showed that there were alternative providers who offered the services which are proposed to move.

East Cheshire NHS Trust can confirm that the same capacity is scheduled to be re-provided at alternative ECT sites. We are proposing to move the following outpatient clinics from Handforth Clinic and deliver them from Macclesfield District General Hospital instead:

- Orthopaedics
- Gynaecology
- Urology
- Breast Surgery
- Audiology
- Paediatrics

We are proposing to move the following outpatient clinics from Handforth Clinic and deliver them from Knutsford and District Community Hospital instead:

- Rheumatology
- Respiratory Medicine

Additionally:

- Midwifery clinics would move to Oakencrough Children's Centre, Colshaw Drive, Wilmslow
- General Surgery clinics will be delivered from both Macclesfield Hospital and Congleton War Memorial Hospital.

5. Consultation

Public consultation commenced 24th July 2017 with expectation to conclude 3rd September 2017. East Cheshire Trust through its communication team has engaged with local councillors (Cllr Burkhill and Cllr Mahon) and the local patient participation group in order to agree the best approach to engage with the local population.

Neil Evans
Director of Commissioning
Eastern Cheshire CCG

Steven Redfern
Deputy Director of Operations
East Cheshire Trust