

Questions to Adults & Health Select Committee – 7 November 2017

Question submitted by Michael Devine

It appears from reports made to the BHU Working Group that Buryfields Clinic, Guildford does not comply with statutory disabled access requirements. CNWL have now arranged for access audit surveys to be conducted by DisabledGo (www.disabledgo.com/home/) at the three “hub” premises from which it is running the Surrey sexual health & HIV contract – Buryfields, Woking Community Hospital and Earnsdale Clinic, Redhill. Why wasn't this done before CNWL were allowed to commit to just the three main centres at Buryfields, Woking and Redhill, and why was the previous service provider allowed to use premises at Buryfields that were not fit for purpose?

Response

The Adults and Health Select Committee is unable to provide a response to specific elements of service delivery and these should be directed to the Patient Mobilisation Group. The Committee has, however, asked commissioners to respond to the concerns raised within your question and has received the following response from NHS England and Surrey County Council:

'CNWL ensures its premises are Equality Act compliant and wish to provide assurance to the AHSC, the Patient Working Group and commissioners about this. CNWL have arranged for a compliance assessment to be conducted on Buryfields Clinic in Guildford, Woking Clinic and Earnsdale Clinic in Redhill. The assessments will be conducted for CNWL by Disability Go (<https://www.disabledgo.com/>) in February.'

Question submitted by Michael Devine

Have the promised satellite clinics opened yet and are they compliant with statutory disabled access requirements? If not open yet, why not?

Response

The Adults and Health Select Committee is unable to provide a response to specific elements of service delivery and these should be directed to the Patient Mobilisation Group. The Committee has, however, asked commissioners to respond to the concerns raised within your question and has received the following response from NHS England and Surrey County Council:

'The satellite clinics in Epsom, Leatherhead are open and they are compliant with accessibility requirements. The clinic in Runnymede is in development and will open in the Spring along with the re-launch of the Staines clinic.'

Question submitted by Hugh Ricketts

Many residents of North East Surrey are closely following policy developments at the Epsom and St Helier Hospitals Trust.

A considerable number of people have noted that several services have been transferred from Epsom to St Helier and that assets at Epsom have been sold to fund changes and property maintenance at St Helier.

What does the committee see as its role in the development of policy, following the recent public engagement exercise undertaken by the trust, and what steps does it intend to take to preserve a full range of services at Epsom General Hospital?

Response

The Adults & Health Select Committee appreciates that there is anxiety among residents arising from the publication of Epsom and St Helier Universities Hospital Trust's Strategic Outline Case which proposes an option to centre acute services on a primary site within the Trust's estate. While discussions regarding the options proposed within the Strategic Outline Case are ongoing it would be inappropriate for the Select Committee to comment further at this time. The Committee was involved in the public engagement exercise undertaken Epsom and St Helier Trust through its Surrey Heartlands Sustainability & Transformation Partnership Sub-Group and will continue to use this forum to understand more about the clinical models proposed within the Strategic Outline Case. If and when specific plans for a clinical model emerge in the wake of the proposals outlined within the Strategic Case Outline then the Select Committee will conduct the appropriate scrutiny of these plans to form a view based on the evidence available.

In reference to your first point, it is the understanding of the Select Committee that no services have been transferred from Epsom Hospital to St Helier Hospital and that no assets have been sold off at Epsom Hospital to fund improvements at St Helier Hospital.

Mr Ken Gulati
Chairman – Adults and Health Select Committee
25 January 2018