

<p>MEDWAY COUNCIL Gun Wharf Dock Road Chatham ME4 4TR</p>	
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Health Overview and Scrutiny

Assessment of whether or not a proposal for the development of the health service or a variation in the provision of the health service in Medway is substantial

A brief outline of the proposal with reasons for the change

Commissioning Body and contact details:

Current/prospective Provider(s): Medway Community Healthcare (MCH)

Outline of proposal with reasons:

Since St. Bartholomew's Hospital (St. Barts) is not fit for purpose as an inpatient unit and is due to be closed, the CCG and MCH are proposing to move the 15 Stroke community rehabilitation beds to a new site.

Many options have been considered and tested for value for money and suitability. There are limited community based facilities that could house the full complement of patient beds and associated stroke services, however MCH have secured space with Avante Care & Support, at Amherst Court, Palmerstone Road Chatham. They will provide "Bed and Board" and MCH will transfer the specialist nursing, therapy and social care staff to this location. This will maintain the current level of service, whilst providing a much more suitable environment for users, carers / family and staff.

The facility is an established care home that has a café on site for all users, relatives and visitors. There is dedicated free on site and road parking with good public transport links. Unlike the current facilities, Patients will have single ensuite rooms as well as access to a day room and dining area. These rooms are available for socialising and allowing the service users to move around freely which will help with their transition back to their permanent home, something the current venue lacks considerably.

The Council have been consulted and have confirmed that this will not have any impact on social care provision at Amherst Court.

Intended decision date and deadline for comments (The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 require the local authority to be notified of the date when it is intended to make a decision as to whether to proceed with any proposal for a substantial service development or variation and the deadline for Overview and Scrutiny comments to be submitted.

These dates should be published.

The move is scheduled for July / August 2016. The CCG is therefore reporting to this Committee at its June meeting.

Alignment with the Medway Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS).

Please explain below how the proposal will contribute to delivery of the priority themes and actions set out in Medway's JHWBS and:

- how the proposed reconfiguration will reduce health inequalities and
- promote new or enhanced integrated working between health and social care and/or other health related services.

The stroke rehabilitation service will remain as it is currently delivered along with existing opening times. The move is only in relation to geographical site but would be enhanced from an environmental perspective.

Please provide evidence that the proposal meets the Government's four tests for reconfigurations (introduced in the NHS Operating Framework 2010-2011):

Test 1 - Strong public and patient engagement

- (i) Have patients and the public been involved in planning and developing the proposal?
- (ii) List the groups and stakeholders that have been consulted
- (iii) Has there been engagement with Medway Healthwatch?
- (iv) What has been the outcome of the consultation?
- (v) Weight given to patient, public and stakeholder views

The CCG have considered this request at the regular St. Barts task group meetings and support the move. As the service deals with a small number of patients suffering an unplanned acute condition rather than ongoing treatment of chronic illness there is not a standing 'user base' of patients who require consultation. The closure of St. Barts has been publicised in local media and the CCG and MCH have prepared and issued joint statements regarding this.

As this service is moving to another nearby site with improved access and improved facilities we do not believe this constitutes a substantial change to the service.

Test 2 - Consistency with current and prospective need for patient choice

This proposal is in line with current service provision and the new facilities will offer patients more patient choice and opportunity for maximising their independence

Test 3 - A clear clinical evidence base

Is there evidence to show the change will deliver the same or better clinical outcomes for patients?

Will any groups be less well off?

Will the proposal contribute to achievement of national and local priorities/targets?

Clinically the service delivery model will not change but we anticipate that the more 'homely' environment will have a positive impact on patient's rehabilitation potential.

Test 4 - Evidence of support for proposals from clinical commissioners - please include commentary specifically on patient safety.

The CCG supports the move from St Barts to more suitable accommodation. The current facilities do not comply with a number of requirements. A recent audit of the facilities concluded that the building as it stands has significant shortcomings:

- The width of the building is too narrow to allow for double sided corridors in most locations.
- The building does not comply with current thermal insulation requirement.
- Daylighting and views out do not comply with current BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) requirements.
- The wards are not same sex.
- All bedrooms are too small, and insufficient space between beds increases the risk of patient to patient infection.
- Only a few rooms have en-suite facilities.
- Observation from the corridor into the bedrooms is not always possible, even with doors left open
- Patient privacy and dignity cannot be observed to the standards required under current regulations (sanitary facilities are shared between sexes, observation is difficult).
- Patient safety cannot be guaranteed to the same extent as is expected in modern healthcare facilities (vision of the entrance to the wards from the nurse bases or meet and greet locations)

All of the above concerns will be addressed in the move to Amherst Court.

Effect on access to services

- (a) The number of patients likely to be affected
- (b) Will a service be withdrawn from any patients?
- (c) Will new services be available to patients?
- (d) Will patients and carers experience a change in the way they access services (ie changes to travel or times of the day)?

The service will remain as it is currently delivered along with existing opening times (24/7) . The move is only in relation to geographical site.

- a) The number of patients likely to be affected:
Maximum 15 inpatients at any time – approximately 140 patients per year.
- b) Will a service be withdrawn from any patients?
No service will be withdrawn
- c) Will new services be available to patients?
This is not a new service
- d) Will patients and carers experience a change in the way they access services (ie changes to travel or times of the day)?
No, the move is only in relation to geographical site, and access by car or public transport is unaffected.

Demographic assumptions

- (a) What demographic projections have been taken into account in formulating the proposals?
- (b) What are the implications for future patient flows and catchment areas for the service?

The proposed location is in Medway, centrally located with good access.

We envisage no negative impact on patient flows as the service delivery model will remain the same

The proposal is to be put in place for 2 years. Demographic growth during that period is not expected to require the provision of additional beds.

Diversity Impact

Please set out details of your diversity impact assessment for the proposal and any action proposed to mitigate negative impact on any specific groups of people in Medway?

No negative impacts have been identified.

Positive impacts have been identified. The current building has:

- ramps which are too steep to comply with building regulations
- assisted bathrooms which are too small to deal with people in wheelchairs

These issues will be resolved with the move.

Financial Sustainability

- (a) Will the change generate a significant increase or decrease in demand for a service?
- (b) To what extent is this proposal driven by financial implications? (For example the need to make efficiency savings).
- (c) What would be the impact of 'no change'?

We do not envisage any changes to patient flows; this is not a financial decision but an estate and environmental issue.

Wider Infrastructure

- (a) What infrastructure will be available to support the redesigned or reconfigured service?
- (b) Please comment on transport implications in the context of sustainability and access

a) CCG and MCH have a detailed mobilisation plan that considers all infrastructure requirements to ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption to service users, staff and the residents of Amherst Court

b) Amherst Court has free on site and road parking. There is a bus stop close by and good road links via the Medway towns and M2.

Is there any other information you feel the Committee should consider?

Please state whether or not you consider this proposal to be substantial, thereby generating a statutory requirement to consult with Overview and Scrutiny

CCG and MCH do not consider this proposal to be a substantial development or variation to the health service.