

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FOR PUBLIC HEALTH**

SHAPING HEALTH SERVICES MONITORING GROUP

**Meeting with Representatives of Buckinghamshire Hospitals Trust
13th March 2007**

Present:

Overview and Scrutiny: Mike Appleyard
Margaret Aston
Wendy Mallen
Angela Macpherson Policy Officer

Buckinghamshire Hospitals Trust John Summers
Celina Eaves
Eileen Doyle

1. Women's and Children's plans

Full business case has been approved by the Strategic Health authority – cost of development estimated at £6m

Drawings for the Claydon wing and labour ward have been signed off

On site start date June 2007 with estimated completion June/July 2008. There is a timetable contingency for September 2008. JS commented that risk is being managed by involving clinicians in early input and input at every stage.

New build will deliver 8 ITU cots,SCBU new theatre and delivery rooms with a birthing pool planned for the new labour ward.

Paediatric ward 3 will increase in bed stock from 26 to 42. These will be in bays and additional single rooms. The final scheme will be agreed by the end of March.

Also by June 2008 Gynae, obstetrics, paediatrics and neo natal will be moved over to SMH site. The facility at SMH will have capacity for 5500 deliveries pa.

Day care, outpatients and antenatal will stay at Wycombe. The birth centre and day area has proved very successful and will remain

The Midwife Led Unit (MLU) now has a birthing pool and numbers have improved with now around 200 deliveries and are anticipating 250 births in 2007/08.

The premature baby unit /SCBU at Wycombe are currently struggling with staffing issues which managers are working hard to rectify.

No emergency cases have had to be transferred from Wycombe to SMH and there has only been one case of foetal distress but with no problems arising. The situation is monitored closely.

Managers commented that a closer working relationship is being developed with the ambulance service who are being proactive and responsive in approach.

Shaping Health Services meetings take place fortnightly and transportation has now been integrated into the project.

MA raised the issue of engaging the local press – specifically the Bucks Free Press editor, Steve Cohen – and suggested a visit to the unit and with the ambulance service could be helpful.

Estates

Wycombe site: JS commented that the trust intends to review service delivery at the Wycombe site and that a clinical strategy needs to be in place first.

SMH site: members asked which of the older buildings would ultimately remain. These would be: the hydrotherapy pool, therapy buildings, pathology and the postgraduate centre.

A&E

Current split between cases taken at SMH/Wycombe 60/40

The transfers situation has improved. Previously too many patients were taken to Wycombe and then transferred up to SMH but improvements in management of ambulance service, staffing and training has resulted in improvements.

Orthopaedic treatment centre

The centre has been established at Wycombe for 2 years and generally is running well although ED commented that the length of stay needs to come down.

Currently 50% of hip patients are discharged after 3 days and knee patients after 4 days.

Some trusts are achieving discharge of 1 day after hip operations!

Infection rates are down due to thorough screening. There is suppression therapy for MRSA and pre-op assessments.

Other issues

Cancellations: Pre shaping Health Services cancellations were running at approximately 50 per week. This has reduced dramatically and figures are now in single figures.

The Trust is due to issue a review of the complete Shaping Health Services programme. It was requested that this be shared with the OSC and this was agreed.