

**Buckinghamshire Health and Adult Social Care Committee
26th July 2016**

Lynton House branch surgery, Cressex Health Centre

Introduction

Cressex Health Centre applied to NHS England South (South Central) to close its branch surgery at Lynton House in March 2016. This followed a period of consultation with patients and local stakeholders which the practice is required to do as part of NHS England's process for the closure of branch surgeries¹. The application included a proposal to re-provide some services at the Minor Injuries and Illness Unit (MIIU) at Wycombe Hospital. Feedback gained from the consultation centred on the difficulty patients reliant on public transport would have travelling to the main practice site or the alternative provision at the MIIU. The consultation feedback also highlighted the issue of present and future capacity of GP services in the east of High Wycombe.

In considering the application, NHS England South (South Central) had a number of questions around the proposal to re-provide some services at the MIIU. As a result, and bearing in mind the issues highlighted by the consultation, NHS England South (South Central) sought clarification from Cressex Health Centre on the detail of their proposal and Chiltern CCG explored options to maintain GP services in the locality of Lynton House.

Decision

NHS England South (South Central) reconsidered Cressex Health Centre's application to close the Lynton House branch surgery on 30th June, when further information on the proposal to re-provide services at the MIIU and an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) (attached) were made available. The application was rejected and a recommendation made that Lynton House should remain open for a period of 6 months, to give time for Chiltern CCG to work with their Wycombe locality, patients and community stakeholders to formulate longer term plans for the provision of primary care services in the east of High Wycombe.

Further Work

NHS England South (South Central) and Chiltern CCG will now work with Cressex Health Centre, patients and stakeholders to formulate plans for the provision of primary care services in the East of High Wycombe. This will be led by Chiltern CCG, who are responsible for the Primary Care Strategy and a Strategic Estates Plan for High Wycombe. Part of this work will be to review the part Lynton House branch surgery will play in the provision of primary medical services for the east of High Wycombe in the medium and longer term.

Chiltern CCG has already been exploring options around alternative sites for the provision of GP services for Lynton House patients, or whether the continuation of services on the Lynton House site is viable. Wycombe District Council (WDC) and Buckinghamshire County Council have been involved in this work. Cressex Health Centre's proposal to part re-provide services on the Wycombe Hospital site also needs further work.

¹ NHS England Policy Book for Primary Medical Services, Chapter 6, paras 15.7 – 15.26

High Wycombe has been identified as a priority in Chiltern CCG's Strategic Estates Plan and this is reflected in the bid made to the Estates and Technology Transformation Fund (ETTF). Chiltern CCG has met with WDC who have advised that the CCG should undertake a review of existing capacity in the Wycombe area mapped against existing demand for services as well as proposed new housing developments detailed in the Local Plan. This review will inform the need for additional resources in the Wycombe area. Chiltern CCG will then submit applications to WDC for Community Infrastructure Levy/Section106 contributions based on the review work.

NHS England South (South Central) will support Chiltern CCG to report by December 2016 on the progress made on plans for the provision of primary medical services in High Wycombe with particular reference to the east of the town. Within this, there should be a proposal on how Lynton House branch surgery, or a suitable alternative for its patients, will fit into this plan. The review will also need to describe how patients, the public and local stakeholders have been involved in this planning, particularly using the feedback that has been gained from the consultation around Lynton House that was done by Cressex Health Centre earlier in the year.

Summary

NHS England South (South Central) has decided that Lynton House should remain open for a period of 6 months while Chiltern CCG leads a review on the future provision of primary medical services in High Wycombe, with particular reference to the east of the town.

As part of this review, recommendations will be made on the future of Lynton House branch surgery for the medium and longer term.