





Meeting of East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board
Held on	27 September 2017
Agenda Item	6
Title	Mearnskirk Hospital Update
Summary	
Mearnskirk Hospital will close in March 2019 with implications for East Renfrewshire citizens who have been placed there for continuing care. Scottish government changes mean that continuing care has been replaced by Hospital Based Complex Care that will be available only to people who cannot be cared for in any other setting than a hospital.	
The HSCP is working with Acute and other Partnerships to determine the financial resource that will be available to us as a result of Mearnskirk's closure and is planning alternative provision for people directly affected. A wider review of provision for avoiding hospital admission and supporting individuals leaving hospital will include the impact of the Mearnskirk closure.	
Presented by	Frank White, Head of Health and Community Care
Action Required The Integration Joint Board is asked to note this report and the commitment to provide a follow-up report as further information becomes available.	
Implications checklist – check box if applicable and include detail in report	
	☐ Legal ☐ Equalities
☐ Risk ☐ Staffing	☐ Property/Capital ☐ Directions



EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

29 September 2017

Report by Chief Officer

Mearnskirk Hospital Update

PURPOSE OF REPORT

 To provide IJB members with information about the future of Mearnskirk Hospital, the impact of new Hospital Based Complex Care (HBCC) rules and the likely resource and service implications for East Renfrewshire.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The IJB are asked to note this report and the commitment to provide a follow-up report as further information becomes available.

BACKGROUND

- 3. Formerly a hospital for children with tuberculosis, Mearnskirk Hospital opened in 1930. It was later turned into a general hospital in 1958 and was eventually closed and redeveloped in the 1990s when Mearnskirk House was opened.
- 4. Since it's redevelopment it has been used to provide 72 beds for older people requiring NHS continuing care. Patients have usually been from East Renfrewshire, Glasgow or South Lanarkshire. It is a PFI funded building owned and managed by Walker Healthcare. All care services are provided by the NHS and specialist support is provided by Sodexo.

REPORT

- Walker Healthcare have notified NHS GGC that they no longer wish to provide the facility when the existing contract expires in March 2019 and will use the site for other purposes.
- 6. In June 2015 the Scottish Government changed the regulations and guidance on continuing care following the Independent Review of NHS Continuing Healthcare. The report made a number of recommendations to reform NHS Continuing Care and putting in place a system which will be applied consistently and transparently by all NHS Boards.
- 7. The new approach Hospital Based Complex Care asks the question "can this individuals care needs be properly met in any setting other than a hospital?" In other words does someone require on-going care and support that can only be provided safely and effectively in hospital? The view of the Scottish Government is that "we should look to disinvest in long-stay beds in a proportionate, measured and safe way and spend the resource, both money and staff, supporting people in the community, where personal outcomes are almost always better."

- 8. This means that patients from acute hospitals will be less likely to be assessed as requiring Hospital Based Complex Care. The change was implemented in June 2105 with a subsequent fall in the people transferred to Mearnskirk. Currently 60 of the 72 beds are occupied, 15 are East Renfrewshire citizens, although historically East Renfrewshire numbers have usually been much higher. We are working with colleagues in Acute to establish the pattern of use over time and the implications for any future financial arrangement following the closure of the facility.
- Our colleagues in Acute are working on projections for future demand for HBCC beds and require to complete this piece of work. It seems likely, however, that as the new HBCC system becomes established there may be no requirement for beds outside an acute hospital setting.
- 10. The decision of Walker Healthcare not to seek to renew their contract with GGC NHS means that the HSCP and our Acute colleagues have a clear timescale to work to plan to meet future needs in a range of community settings. Further work is required to identify the current cost of service delivery in Mearnskirk and agree a mechanism to transfer the appropriate budgets to the HSCP's who have had residents in the facility.
- 11. We will therefore continue to work with NHS GGC, Glasgow and South Lanarkshire HSCP's to agree a distribution of the resources from April 2019. We want to reach an early conclusion to allow us to determine the level of resource available to plan alternative placements, where necessary, for people currently placed in Mearnskirk. At the same time we are exploring how best to develop community based options that keep people out of hospital and provide a range of alternative provision for people discharged from hospital but who need additional support.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

12. Financial information will be available at a later stage.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

13. We will work with Acute colleagues to develop an engagement process for individuals and families affected by the closure of Mearnskirk. We will carry out further work with Acute and Glasgow and South Lanarkshire HSCP's to agree financial arrangements.

CONCLUSIONS

14. The future closure of Mearnskirk House and introduction of Hospital Based Complex Care will have implications for the HSCP. Resources will result from the closure and work is on-going to develop flexible, community based resources to support individuals and meet future needs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. The IJB are asked to note this report and the commitment to provide a follow-up report as further information becomes available.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

Scottish Government Guidance: Hospital Based Complex Clinical Care http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/dl/DL(2015)11.pdf

