

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 29th March 2012
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director - Communities
PORTFOLIO: Health and Adults
SUBJECT: Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust
WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To outline for Executive Board members, Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust's proposals to become a Foundation Trust (FT).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

- i) The Council supports
 - a. the proposal, submitted by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust, to become a FT and its development plans. (see paragraph 3.6)
 - b. the membership arrangements proposed by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust. (see paragraph 3.7)
 - c. the public membership constituencies proposed by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust should give due regard to a dedicated Halton constituency (see paragraph 3.8.1)
 - d. the staff membership proposals proposed by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust. (see paragraph 3.8.2)
 - e. the Governors structure proposed by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust. However in respect of the composition of public governors, the Council will recommend to the Trust that Halton and St Helens should have two representatives for each area and not one for both. (see paragraph 3.9)
 - f. the plans for governance proposed by Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust. (see paragraph 3.10).
- ii) The Council will encourage Halton residents to take up the opportunity to become Members of the proposed Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS FT.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust provides NHS services to about 750,000 people living in Liverpool, Sefton, Knowsley and Halton & St Helens.

3.2 Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust is aiming to become a Foundation Trust by April 2013 and as such is currently seeking views from patients and the public on its plans for becoming a FT.

3.3 Patients, local people and partner organisations have been invited to

express their views on the proposals for becoming a FT, including the governance arrangements during a 12 week consultation period, ending on April 30.

- 3.4 It should be noted that although Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust do not provide any direct services to the residents of Halton, it is felt that the Board should support the Trust's application as there may be potential for business opportunities in the future.
- 3.5 Members of the Health Policy and Performance Board have received a copy of the above consultation and have had the opportunity to comment on Liverpool's proposals.

Summary of Proposals

- 3.6 **Development Plans** – Within its consultation document Liverpool outlines details of three development plans for 2012/13, as follows :-
- **One Call for All** – This outlines the way Liverpool intend to improve the way patients, cares and clinical staff access their services by setting up a single telephone number that will be available all day, every day; where trained staff will be available to answer queries and deal with a referral or appointment
 - **Being Productive – Being 'Green'** – Liverpool plan to provide patients and staff with the best quality environment for delivering healthcare and ensure that their services are located close to home. They want to make staff as mobile as possible, reducing time spent travelling between their clinical base and patient's homes giving them more time to spend with patients and enhancing the service they provide.
 - **Every Contact Counts** – Liverpool want to improve health in their communities and have trained a number of staff to support people in making changes to their lifestyle. At every appointment or home visit it is envisaged that staff will ask patients about ways to improve their health and wellbeing and find out more about the health issues that matter to them.
- 3.7 **Membership** – Liverpool's proposals outline that membership will be representative of the communities and groups that they serve and want members to be able to shape the future of the Trust. They are proposing that members must be aged 12 years and over and have chosen to recruit members from a younger age because Liverpool provide a wide range of children services. NB. Members aged 16 years and above, would be able to stand for elections as a governor.

Liverpool are proposing two levels of membership :-

- **Level 1** – Members will receive information about the organisation on a regular basis, as well as an invitation to attend the Annual Members' Meeting and the Trust's Annual General Meeting. All members will be sent voting papers to elect a governor in their constituency area and will be given information on how they can stand for election to the Council of Governors
- **Level 2** – Members will receive the same information as Level 1. They will also be contacted by Liverpool to invite them to get

involved in a range of activities – from surveys to focus groups related to topics that interest them.

3.8 **Membership Constituency** – Liverpool are proposing two membership constituency categories :-

3.8.1 **Public Membership** – The proposal is for five constituency areas and each area will be based on the electoral wards of that area as outlined below :-

- Sefton
- Liverpool North
- Liverpool South
- Knowsley
- Halton and St Helens

Consideration should be given to identifying a dedicated Halton public membership.

3.8.2 **Staff Membership** - Membership will be available to staff if they are:

- employed by the Trust under a contract of employment which has no fixed term or has a fixed term of at least 12 months; or
- been continuously employed by the Trust under a contract of employment for at least 12 months.

The Trust intends to operate a system of automatic membership for staff, the impact of which is that all staff eligible for membership will become members unless they advise that they do not wish to be included.

The Trust propose to structure staff membership under three groups (classifications) :-

- Administration and Clerical, including Estates and Ancillary staff
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Allied Health Professions, Professional, Scientific and Technical, Medical and Dental staff and Additional Clinical Services.

3.9 **Council of Governors** – Liverpool is proposing that the Council of Governors will be made up of 22 Governors, which will include both elected and appointed governors, as follows :-

- **Public Governors** – 13 elected public governors representing the five constituencies. NB. Liverpool is proposing one public governor to represent Halton and St Helens and not one to represent each area.
- **Staff Governors** – Liverpool plan to elect four staff governors
- **Appointed Governors** – Liverpool propose to have five appointed governors from Liverpool City Council, Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council. NHS Merseyside, Liverpool John Moores University and one other from a local organisation they work with and want to hear from any community group that would like to put their organisation forward.

Liverpool propose to give elected governors two terms of office, however to ensure that they have a level of continuity they aim to give governors with the highest percentage of votes a terms of three years, and give the other elected governors a term of two years.

Consideration should be given to a dedicated Halton Governor.

3.10 **Governance** – It is proposed that the Trust’s Board of Directors will be made up of:-

- A Chair – the chair is a non-executive Director of the Board and will also be the Chair of the Council of Governors
- Up to 6 Non-Executive Directors (not including the Chair)
- Up to 6 Executive Directors, including a :-
 - Chief Executive
 - Director of Finance
 - Medical Director – a registered medical or dental practitioner
 - Executive Nurse – a registered nurse or midwife

NB. The Chief Executive will be the Accounting Officer of the FT and will be responsible for making sure that all the Trust’s legal and financial duties are met.

3.11 Liverpool’s consultation document containing details of the proposals can be found at the link below :-

http://issuu.com/membershipengagement/docs/liverpool_community_health_consultation?mode=window&backgroundColor=%23222222

NB. In terms of Liverpool’s consultation document, unfortunately it is not available via a downloadable document, rather an ‘E-Book’.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None identified at this stage.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None identified at this stage.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

All issues outlined in this report and Liverpool Community Healthcare NHS Trust’s proposals to become a FT from April 2013 focuses directly on this priority.

Some of the key benefits of becoming a FT would be :-

- Local decision making as opposed to being dictated by central government.
- Local people and organisations having a much greater say in services through becoming members.
- Public and staff members being able to elect the majority of

representatives on the Council of Governors.

- The Council of Governors being able to influence key decisions about the Trust and having a say on senior appointments.
- Greater financial freedom to invest in new services.
- Independent regulation by Monitor

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

As per 6.1 above.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None identified at this stage

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Any services provided which seek to address the health needs of the residents of Halton needs to be fully accessible.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None under the meaning of the Act.