

23rd May 2014

Councillor Ellen Cargill
Chair
Health Policy and Performance Board
Halton Borough Council
41 Haywood Crescent
Waters Edge
Runcorn
WA7 6NA

Dear Councillor Cargill

Re: Arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny consultation on proposed changes to provision of services by The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust

In line with the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations regarding health scrutiny we are writing to inform you that we are planning a formal public consultation on proposed changes to services provided by The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust and to request consultation with the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the planned changes.

Collectively, we believe this may be a substantial variation in the provision of cancer care for people in your area. We plan to carry out a formal 12-week public consultation on the proposals in summer 2014, which as you may recall we highlighted in previous correspondence in late 2013/early 2014. A summary of our pre-consultation is appended to the 2014 Consultation Plan (enclosure 2).

We are seeking your consideration under the revised statutory framework which authorises local authorities to:

- Review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service; and,
- Consider consultations by a relevant NHS body or provider of NHS-funded services on any proposal for a substantial development or variation to the health service in the local authority's area.

As accountable commissioners (NHS England Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral Area Team Specialised Commissioning) and the provider (The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust) of the services affected by these proposals, we are asking each local authority to individually reach a view on whether they are satisfied that this proposal is deemed to be a substantial development or variation and that it impacts on the health services in your area. This proposal affects all local authorities across Cheshire and Merseyside, namely;

- Cheshire East Council
- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Halton Borough Council
- Knowsley Council
- Liverpool City Council
- St Helen's Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sefton Council
- Warrington Borough Council

- Wirral Borough Council

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre has sent details of feedback following the pre-consultation phase to each local authority's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Panels and has attended several local authority committees this year to feedback our insight following the pre-consultation period.

NHS England Area Team specialist commissioning and The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre would ask that where more than one local authority agrees this proposal to be a substantial variation, that a joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee is formed for the purpose of considering The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust proposal for change collectively.

During our feedback to local authorities, we have informed local scrutiny officers of our intentions and we are aware that a protocol for the establishment of a joint Health Scrutiny arrangement for Cheshire and Merseyside areas has been under discussion.

In making this request we would like to confirm the following details to support your decision making process.

- As the accountable commissioner and provider, we would need your response and comments to the proposal by 7 November 2014.
- The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust intends to make its final decision (subject to NHS England and Monitor approval) whether to implement the proposal by 30 January 2015.
- The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust will be publishing these dates and all consultation documentation by 1 July 2014.
- If these dates alter The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust will inform the local authorities and update our publication materials accordingly.

NHS England will also be undertaking its own assurance process of the proposals and this process should be completed by the end of June 2014. A copy of the report will be provided in due course.

Further information about the case for change and the service changes proposed in response to this is enclosed, together with our detailed consultation plan. We would of course be happy to provide any further detail or clarification that you would find helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like further information or have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Tonge
Interim Area Director
Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral
Area Team
NHS England



Andrew Cannell
Chief Executive
The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre
NHS Foundation Trust

Enclosures

1. Case for Change
2. 2014 Consultation Plan