

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 2008

EXB121 NORTH CHESHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST - APPLICATION FOR FOUNDATION STATUS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Health and Community providing an overview of the application for Foundation Status by North Cheshire Hospital NHS Trust under the Health and Social Care Act 2003. It was noted that the consultation period of 12 weeks had commenced on 14th January 2008 and ended on 11th April 2008 with a decision to be taken by the Summer 2008.

The Board was advised that when an organisation became a Foundation Trust it meant that it would:

- have more autonomy in making decisions about services provided;
- be accountable to members (staff, patients and local people) rather than directly to the Secretary of State;
- remain part of the NHS;
- be accountable to NHS Commissioners through legally binding contracts; and
- be approved by the Independent Regulator “Monitor” (which authorised and monitored NHS Foundation Trusts).

The Trust believed that flexibility and freedoms arising from Foundation Status would enhance its ability to shape healthcare services in response to the above average levels of chronic diseases arising from the severe health inequalities, social disadvantage and social exclusion evident in the population it served. The Trust was also committed to strengthening its links with the local community through the introduction of members and governors. In addition, there was a financial benefit in being able to retain or build up surpluses as well as borrowing monies to develop services.

The implications of achieving Foundation Status for the people of Halton, together with governance arrangements, were outlined within the report for the Board’s consideration. It was noted that the Partner Organisation Governors would include one representative from

Warrington Borough Council and one from Halton Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the application for Foundation Status and the opportunities this would bring for the people of Halton be supported.

EXB122 ADULTS SECTION 31 AGREEMENT WITH HALTON AND ST HELENS PCT, HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL AND ST HELENS COUNCIL

(Note: Due to a change in legislation, the Board was advised that Section 31 had been superseded by Section 75.)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Health and Community providing an update on progress to develop commissioning between Halton Borough Council, St. Helens Council and Halton and St. Helens Primary Care Trust (PCT), and outlining a proposal to enter into a formal Section 75 Agreement with the PCT.

It was advised that, over the last ten years, the Council had developed a good working relationship with Primary Care Services, this becoming more robust over the last two years. Key achievements had included joint commissioning strategies for all adult service groups, which the Commission for Social Care inspection had commended, as well as clarity and direction on the modernisation programme. Weaknesses had centred on roles and responsibilities and lead commissioning.

At a joint Chief Executive Officers' meeting in June 2007 between St. Helens and Halton Councils and the PCT, it was agreed that the PCT would commission and fund an analysis of the current commissioning arrangements and ATOS Consulting had undertaken this work. Since then, representatives from the PCT, the Council and St. Helens Council had been meeting to finalise the report and agree a way forward: Appendix 1 was a synopsis of the key actions and an agreement on the way forward.

It was advised that all three organisations would like to agree strategic leadership roles for commissioning care streams by introducing new partnership agreements through a formal DoH Section 75 Agreement, and the proposed lead roles were outlined for the Board's consideration along with the expected outcomes.

A draft Section 75 Agreement was attached at Appendix 2 to the report and it was proposed that the three organisations approve and sign up to the document. Further work would be undertaken to ensure that Halton Borough Council's priorities (Appendix 3) were fully integrated into the

partnership agreement. It was advised that the agreement was for Adults Services only.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) subject to any minor drafting amendments, the Section 75 Agreement between Halton Borough Council, St. Helens Council, and Halton and St. Helens PCT be approved.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 2008

EBS105 INTERMEDIATE CARE EXECUTIVE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT SECTION 31 POOLED BUDGET

The Sub-Committee considered a report on progress and future developments within the Intermediate Care Partnership. A formal Department of Health Section 31 partnership was agreed in 2006 and included lead commissioning, a pooled budget and integrated management for the Rapid Access Rehabilitation Services (RARS).

Since the establishment of an Intermediate Care Executive Commissioning Board (ECB) in July 2008, numerous meetings had been held to develop the performance management process and finance matters and the two budgets were now managed as one overall budget, therefore improving the flexibility of the service.

It was noted that the service was regularly reviewed and monitored by the ECB to ensure the service met its targets and the pooled budget was managed effectively, with quarterly reports to the Partnership Board.

In addition the report also outlined key developments within Intermediate Care Partnership, the number of local intermediate care targets agreed and achieved and service user outcomes. Future developments within Intermediate Care Partnership included:

- to further develop integrated management;
- extending the Section 31 and pooled budget to include all Intermediate Care Services by 2008/09;
- proposals for revised funding contributions (potential savings of £157,028 would enable the Council to absorb the reduction in the health SSP contribution to the Vulnerable Adults Task Force (VATF) Programme); and

- further work to be undertaken with regard to performance data collection across the PCT and the Council.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) the achievement of the key targets and further development of the Intermediate Care Services be noted; and
- (3) the Sub-Committee agree to strengthen the current partnership and pooled budget arrangement by including other intermediate care services within the framework as outlined in the report.