DOUGLAS STREET COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC

Relocation of Primary Care Services
from the Medical Rehabilitation Unit, Uddingston

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to:

- Inform NHS Lanarkshire Board of the proposed relocation of Primary Care Services provided from the Medical Rehabilitation Unit (MRU), Uddingston to the newly developed Douglas Street Community Health Clinic, Hamilton.

- Seek the Board’s approval to proceed.

2. BACKGROUND

NHS Lanarkshire’s Capital Investment Group approved the development of the Douglas Street premises as an enabling project for the Caird House development thus relocating primary care services from Beckford Lodge to Douglas Street. This phase of the development is complete and primary care services are being effectively delivered within a modern, fit for purpose environment.

The Capital Investment Group and the Modernisation Board approved the development of options to occupy the remaining accommodation within Douglas Street Community Health Clinic. Both groups have now accepted the recommendation that the preferred option is to relocate primary care services within MRU and now seeks the Board’s approval of this recommendation.

It is clear that the Douglas Street Community Health Clinic offers a significant range of benefits over the current MRU accommodation including;

- a greatly improved clinical environment allowing services to work in new ways, that are not currently possible.

- improved waiting times for physiotherapy and podiatry services as a result of efficiencies in service delivery within a modern fit for purpose clinical environment.
- the ability to deliver services via multi-professional teams, who will jointly share patient information, plan and provide care and treatment.

- closer working arrangements with local authority and voluntary organisations benefiting patients with long term conditions including mental health and addictions.

- flexible use of clinical space allowing changes in clinical practice to further improve the services delivered to patients.

With regard to the MRU, a Fire Safety Assessment and a Conditions Survey commissioned by Property & Support Services Department identified a number of Health & Safety issues for patients and staff, relating to the age and condition of the building, plus major building fabric renovation and refurbishment requirements.

In addition the impact of a Fire Safety Assessment and Conditions Survey was to remove some patient services and staff accommodation from specific areas within the building and minimise the Health & Safety risks.

NHS Lanarkshire’s approved Property Strategy 2009/2013 concluded the backlog expenditure requirement of £0.67M would not provide patients with premises improvements sufficient for the delivery of modern primary premises healthcare services.

3. SERVICE DELIVERY

Primary care services currently delivered within MRU are:

- Adult physiotherapy;
- Staff physiotherapy;
- Paediatric physiotherapy;
- Podiatry;
- Bio-engineering;
- Adult and Paediatric Orthotics;
- Westmarc wheelchair clinic;

These services can be integrated with the services currently delivered within Douglas Street, following their relocation from Beckford Lodge. These include:

- Adult Physiotherapy;
- Podiatry;
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy;
- Speech and Language Therapy;
- LAADDS (Lanarkshire Alcohol and Addiction Service);
- Clinical Psychology;
- Community Mental Health and Psychiatry;
- Community Dental Services;
- Adult and Paediatric Orthodontics;
- Bereavement Counselling.
4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Douglas Street Community Health Clinic Development has been managed through a Project Board chaired by Geoff Sage, Locality General Manager and comprises of planning and technical advisors; departmental representatives and locality managers; staff side representative and PPF representation.

All stages of the development have had consultation with service users and staff, and a Communications Plan, developed through the Primary Care Communications Manager, has ensured effective communications with all stakeholders. The Communications Plan associated with this relocation was discussed with and signed off by the Scottish Health Council.

Public engagement, as part of the process to inform stakeholders of the proposal to relocate primary care services from MRU to Douglas Street Community Health Clinic, has included:

- NHS Lanarkshire briefing to all Lanarkshire MSP’s
- Development of a Briefing Paper and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) paper provided to:
  - MSP for Uddingston area
  - Lanarkshire list MSP’s
  - Bothwell and Uddingston Elected Members
  - South Lanarkshire Council Leader
  - Bothwell Community Council
  - Uddingston Community Council
- Direct contact with the Office Bearers of both Community Councils provided an explanation of the proposal. This was received positively with recognition of the condition of the building.
- Copies of the Briefing and FAQ Papers distributed to local libraries, general practitioner surgeries and to patients attending MRU.
- All communications offered opportunities to meet with representatives of NHS Lanarkshire to further discuss the proposal details.
- None of the stakeholder contacts sought further information and there have been no negative responses received from the public engagement process.
5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The NHS Lanarkshire Board is asked to:

- Approve the relocation of all primary care services delivered from the Medical Rehabilitation Unit, Uddingston to the Douglas Street Community Health Clinic in October 2009.

6. **FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you require any further information please contact:

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