



Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland
Community Services

Excellent care close to home

Temporary Relocation of Services from Carter Bequest Primary Care Hospital for Essential Works

December 2009

BRIEFING PAPER

INTRODUCTION

Carter Bequest Primary Care Hospital is a 43 bedded post acute rehabilitation hospital, located on Cambridge Road, Middlesbrough.

In addition to the inpatient service the hospital also accommodates Cambridge Medical Practice, James Cook University Hospital Speech and Language Department, Stroke Association and Paediatric Physiotherapy.

The key objective of the hospital is to deliver high quality care to all patients in a clean, safe and well maintained environment. In order to continue to meet these standards there is a need to undertake essential and urgent maintenance work. This work will require the temporary relocation of inpatient services for an eight week period.

CURRENT POSITION

Structural surveys within the main area of the hospital, Cambridge Ward and Oxford Ward have highlighted that there are essential and urgent works required. The development of ridges, leading to an uneven surface on the Oxford Ward floor, poses a significant risk to the elderly care patients and staff.

After investigation of the floor it has become clear that urgent works need to be undertaken to rectify the issue to ensure that Health and Safety does not become compromised.

The improvement works have previously been postponed due to Emergency Planning for pandemic flu; however this can no longer be delayed as the condition of the floor is deteriorating. We have also been advised that a crack is moving inwards on the top floor and needs urgent attention.

We are also planning to undertake recommended upgrades to the doors and the electrics to prevent future disruption of services at a future date.

PROCESS

The essential works as outlined above will take a multi-disciplinary team of contractors eight weeks and this requires full closure of the hospital, including the vacation of both wards for an eight week period.

Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland Community Services (MRCCS), as the current service provider, have secured approval from NHS Middlesbrough for the temporary relocation of services to allow for the essential works to take place.

This approval is based on recognition that the works are essential in ensuring that MRCCS operate a safe environment with no further risk of tripping or injury to patients. The works are needed urgently to improve health and safety within the hospital for patients, staff and visitors.

The period of closure will also enable the delivery of compliance of Fixed Wire Testing Regulations and compliance with Infection Prevention and Control recommendations through the installation of new doors.

PROPOSALS

The proposal is to temporarily close the 43 beds located at Carter Bequest Primary Care Hospital from Thursday 14 January 2010 until Monday 15 March 2010 and relocate patients to Stead Primary Care Hospital, Kirkleatham Street, Redcar, where 36 beds are available. Should further beds be required, a further 8 beds are available at the Boulby Unit, East Cleveland Primary Care Hospital, Alford Road, Brotton during this period. In total, the two primary care hospitals will cater for the temporary bed closures at Carter Bequest Primary Care Hospital.

The impact of this relocation on current patients of the Oxford and Cambridge Wards, and their families, is recognised, and every effort will be made to minimise disruption and ensure that appropriate support is available. All staff currently based at Carter Bequest Primary Care Hospital will transfer to the alternative sites to ensure continuity of care.

The services provided by the Cambridge Medical Practice, James Cook University Hospital Speech and Language Department, Stroke Association and Paediatric Physiotherapy will be unaffected by the closure of the inpatient areas.

INFORMING LOCAL PEOPLE

A Communication Plan has been developed and is appended to this Briefing. This will ensure that patients and their families, staff, local stakeholders and others affected by the service relocation are informed of the reasons for the temporary closure and how services will be provided during this time.

Action for Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny are asked to note the content of this briefing and highlight any additional issues that they feel may need addressing in informing local people and how they wish to be involved.