

Report from Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group

***Updated information for Somerset County Council's forthcoming Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee.***

**Dorset CCG Clinical Services Review (Maternity and Paediatrics)**

On 20 September 2017, the Board of Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) will be discussing the outcome of their most recent patient and public engagement around their Clinical Services Review and specifically maternity and paediatric services.

The engagement process has not been without controversy as people in Dorset have shared their views about a number of proposals for the future configuration of maternity services and paediatric services.

The maternity and paediatric service proposals developed through Dorset CCG's public engagement processes were informed by the findings of an independent review carried out by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) between October and December 2015. The review was published in April 2016.

The review considered two potential models of care previously identified by NHS Dorset CCG and local healthcare partners. The RCPCH team identified many good working practices across the county, with a highly committed workforce which is providing excellent care in many areas.

There were also a number of challenges identified including resourcing, recruitment of staff and current facilities (Page 20). The review explored a number of recommendations to ensure services remain sustainable and safe in the future. These included hospitals working closer together for the benefit of local children and parents, and increasing normal births and midwifery led care.

A full copy of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) review is available online at: <https://www.csr.dorsetsvision.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/11/pcbc-appendix-l.pdf>

The most recent proposals from Dorset CCG have suggested Dorset County Hospital in Dorchester might share some services with Yeovil District Hospital.

This might see one hospital having a 24-hour children's ward, a special care baby unit, and a consultant-led maternity unit.

A second hospital would have a midwife-led maternity unit and day-time paediatric services.

Dorset CCG has not said which hospital would have which configuration of service at this time. No decision has been made and any specific proposals would only take place after formal public consultation.

## **Maternity and Paediatric Review**

Since the publication of the RCPCH review in April 2016, the Boards of Yeovil District Hospital and Dorset County Hospital have agreed to work together to explore in more detail the options for the future model of maternity and paediatric services across the two sites.

This work has been ensuring that the broader access implications for the populations of West Dorset and East Somerset are fully considered, recognising the responsibility of Yeovil District Hospital to work as part of the Somerset NHS.

Somerset CCG is now undertaking its own review of Maternity and Paediatric services for the people of Somerset. This is being led by Dr Rosie Benneyworth, the Clinical Lead for Somerset's Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)

The aim of the review will be to ensure Somerset's services are clinically appropriate for the population we serve and complimentary with the configuration of maternity and paediatric services in neighbouring Devon, Dorset, North Somerset and Bath and North East Somerset.

Future service planning will be informed by patient and public views and once specific service proposals had been developed and these would be subject to further public engagement and formal public consultation.

## **Recommendations**

The Committee are asked to consider and comment on the update report.