

DERBYSHIRE URGENT TREATMENT CENTRES STRATEGIC REVIEW :
A BRIEF FOR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OFFICERS

<p>Background</p> <p>In July 2017, updated February 2021, NHS England produced Principles and Standards to be achieved for the formal designation of all Urgent Treatment Centres (UTC). The guidance sets out the principles and standards which Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships and local commissioners (soon to become Integrated Care Services) should achieve when establishing Urgent Treatment Centres as part of their local integrated urgent and emergency care system.</p> <p>The establishment of Urgent Treatment Centres forms part of the 2019 NHS Long Term Plan to improve national ED performance and make access to services clearer for patients.</p> <p>As a result of UTC standardisation and simplified access, the National review expects that attendance at ED would be reduced, and patient convenience improved, as patients will no longer feel the need to travel and queue at ED.</p> <p>The National review also identified the confusing mix of walk-in-centres, minor injuries units and urgent care centres in addition to numerous GP health centres and surgeries offering varied levels of core and extended urgent care services. To address patient and public confusion the national review outlined the core set of standards for Urgent Treatment Centres in order to establish as much commonality as is possible.</p>
<p>Current Position</p> <p>Currently Derbyshire has 5 Urgent Treatment Centres designated in 2019 in accordance with the NHSE stipulated timescale. These centres are essentially existing centres that already met the required criteria and are located Ilkeston, Ripley, Buxton, Whitworth and Derby City. A commitment to further review UTCs was intended.</p> <p>Since 2019 the experience of the Covid pandemic and associated necessary changes to health service provision led to the provision of 2 further Urgent Treatment Centres located at the Acute hospital front door at both Chesterfield and Royal Derby hospitals.</p> <p>In assessing and considering the need to formally commission and continue provision of these 2 additional UTCs, a strategic level decision was made to review all UTC provision across Derbyshire.</p> <p>The strategic review of UTCs will take into consideration the recent and ongoing investments in enhancing Primary Care provision and the development of local Primary Care Networks. The review will have a focus on population health needs and health inequalities in agreeing future provision of Urgent Treatment Centres. To this end, the strategic review will include the three GP walk in centres at New Mills, Swadlincote and Ashbourne.</p>
<p>Progress to Date</p> <p>This review is recently commenced and is at early stages of development. The work is being carried out in conjunction with system partners from all Urgent Treatment Centres, the two acute trusts, CCG colleagues, DCHS, DHU111, Primary Care and Mental Health partners. The programme is currently co-designing with CCG and JUCD colleagues an online survey for patients and the public to form part of pre-engagement work.</p>

It is recognised that decisions regarding the future provision of Urgent Treatment Centres will have an impact on a number of stakeholders, particularly patients and public. And we are working closely with our Engagement team to ensure all procedures are met in line with patient and public involvement in options appraisal and decisions, and that any statutory consultation obligations will be met.

At this stage a UTC Strategic Working Group involving Derbyshire commissioners and service providers has been established. The working group is led by Dr Paul Wood (Clinical Lead for Urgent Care, Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group) and is currently working through the logistics regarding what is needed to undertake such a review, ie what data we need and the gathering of that data, and what may be possible in terms of service delivery.

The working group will report into the Urgent, Emergency and Critical Care Delivery Board and subsequently to the Joined Up Care Derbyshire (future ICS) Board.

We are currently working with our Engagement team to produce an Engagement Plan, UTC review timeline and project plan, which can be provided to the Committee once completed.

The working group wish to keep the Oversight and Scrutiny Committee up to date with progress and would welcome any feedback or questions on the information shared within this briefing document.