

TITLE	Health Consultations
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 January 2012
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Charles Yankiah, Senior Democratic Services Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To bring to the attention of the Committee the current “live” health consultations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To decide on which of the “live” Consultations the Committee would like to be consulted on and respond to prior to the deadline dates.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION**INTRODUCTION**

This paper provides an overview of “live” consultations in relation to health policy as of 16 January 2012. Details provided on all “live” consultations have been taken directly from the Department of Health website.

For further information on consultations please refer to the Department of Health or Directgov websites, see link below –

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/index.htm>

LIVE CONSULTATIONS**1. Consultation on the Future of Fosters Residential Care Home (See Appendix 1)**

Launch date: 16 November 2011

Closing date: 8 February 2012

This consultation on the future of Fosters is considered within a wider context of the Borough Council's long term housing strategy for older people outlined in 2008. The strategy involved consultation with stakeholders, partners and residents of WBC (*A strategy for housing for older people in Wokingham, Updated: June 2008*). It considered contemporary and future patterns of local need for accommodation for older people alongside national policy.

There has been briefing sessions with staff on 15th November, followed by meetings with residents and their families on Wednesday 16th November to launch the consultation. A media briefing is also being held on the morning of Thursday 17th November at Alexandra Place.

Consultation materials explaining the process, options proposed and some of the questions people will have, are on the Wokingham website www.wokingham.gov.uk

Contact: Mike Wooldridge

Telephone: 0118 974 6783

Email: mike.wooldridge@wokingham.gov.uk

2. Market entry by means of pharmaceutical needs assessment and quality and performance (market exit)

Launch date: 31 October 2011

Closing Date: 25 January 2012

The NHS Act 2006 requires the Secretary of State for Health to make Regulations concerning the provision of NHS pharmaceutical services in England.

The Health Act 2009 amended these provisions by providing that

- PCTs must develop and publish local pharmaceutical needs assessments (known as "PNAs"); and
- PCTs would then use their PNAs as the basis for determining entry to the NHS pharmaceutical services market.

Contact: Gillian Farnfield

Address: PNA Entry consultation,
Room 453D,
Skipton House,
80 London Road,
London SE1 6LH

Email: pnaentrycons@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Link: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_130510

3. Consultation on Cancer of Unknown Primary and Community Skin Measures

Launch Date: 23 December 2011

Closing Date: 14 March 2012

A draft version of the cancer of unknown primary measures and the community skin cancer measures are being issued today for a three month consultation by stakeholders.

The purpose of this consultation is not reopen the extensive consultation on the guidance, but rather to invite comments on the contents of the draft measures, for example –

- is the wording of each quality measure clear?
- what additional, if any, supplementary guidance on the quality measure is required?
- are there any important gaps?

The measures included in the manual for cancer services identify characteristics of services that should help those involved in planning, commissioning, organising and providing cancer services to identify gaps in provision, and to support the quality assurance of services enabling quality improvements. The development of cancer measures is an ongoing process and reflects NICE quality standards and clinical guidelines and revisions to existing NICE guidance.

Contact: Zara Gross

Address: Project Assistant, National Cancer Peer Review
National Cancer Action Team
18th Floor, Portland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5RS

Email: zara.gross@ncpr.org.uk

Link: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_131989

4. Consultation on Specialist Palliative Care Measures

Launch Date: 5 December 2011

Closing Date: 27 February 2012

A draft version of the Specialist Palliative Care Measures for inclusion in the Manual for Cancer Services is being issued today for a 12 week consultation period ending 27 February 2012. This is not a public consultation and is aimed at interested stakeholders only.

Contact: Zara Gross

Address: Project Assistant, National Cancer Peer Review
National Cancer Action Team
18th Floor, Portland House
Bressenden Place

London SW1E 5RS

Email: zara.gross@ncpr.org.uk

Link: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_131554

5. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2011 (JSNA) Domestic Violence, Reducing Inequalities, Mental Health and End of Life Care

Launch Date: 5 January 2012

Closing Date: 5 February 2012

The JSNA process identifies the current and future health and well being needs of the local population, and informs the priorities and targets set by Local Area Agreements. These will lead to agreed commissioning priorities that will ultimately improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities. Currently we are consulting the public on four modules - Domestic Violence, Reducing Inequalities, Mental Health and End of Life Care.

Contact: The Engagement Team

NHS Berkshire West

57-59 Bath Road

Reading

RG30 2BA

Email: ppi.team@berkshire.nhs.uk

Tel: 0118 982 2916

Link:

<https://haveyoursay.berkshirewestpct.nhs.uk/consult.ti/JSNA2011/consultationHome>

6. Management of HIV-infected Healthcare Workers - a paper for consultation

Launch Date: 1 December 2011

Closing Date: 9 March 2012

The national guidance which presently restricts healthcare workers infected with HIV from performing invasive clinical procedures, known as exposure prone procedures, has been reviewed by a joint working group of the Expert Advisory Group on AIDS; the UK Advisory Panel for Healthcare Workers Infected with Blood-borne Viruses and the Advisory Group on Hepatitis.

This consultation paper seeks views on recommendations from the working group for changes to the current policy on HIV-infected healthcare workers.

The working group's report is being published alongside this consultation paper, together with a consultation impact assessment and a draft equality analysis, which will be reviewed in the light of the consultation responses.

Contact: HIV Healthcare Worker consultation team

Address: Department of Health, Room 531
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

Email: hivhcwsconsultation@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Link: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_131532

Analysis of Issues

n/a

Corporate Implications (this must include Financial Implications)

n/a

Reasons for Decision

No decision required.

Alternative Options considered, if any

n/a

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

n/a

List of Background Papers

n/a

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Date 16 January 2012

Version No. 1

Consultation on the Future of Fosters Residential Care Home

Member Briefing

16th November 2011

Fosters is a 35 bedded traditional Residential Care Home, with 1 Short Stay place situated in Woodley. It has been in operation since 1964. It provides 24hr accommodation and care for people who fall into the registration categories of frail elderly and those with a diagnosis of dementia.

Whilst the level of care provided at Fosters is held in very high esteem by residents and their relatives, the physical environment presently falls well below the standards required by the Care Standards Act (2000), but as these standards are not retrospectively applied Fosters is able to maintain its current registration. The facilities at Fosters do not enable residents to retain a lot of independence. Fosters does not offer en-suite facilities and bedrooms do not meet minimum requirements for room size.

Moreover, a recent survey of the building revealed that the poor condition of the building requires substantial work in order to make sufficient improvements to bring it up to modern standards of accommodation. In addition to structural work, equipment and fittings need to be replaced. These repairs and changes to the building would not only cause considerable disruption to the lives of Fosters residents but would also be limited in terms of what they could achieve.

This consultation on the future of Fosters is considered within a wider context of the Borough Council's long term housing strategy for older people outlined in 2008. The strategy involved consultation with stakeholders, partners and residents of WBC (*A strategy for housing for older people in Wokingham, Updated: June 2008*). It considered contemporary and future patterns of local need for accommodation for older people alongside national policy.

A wide consultation of over 400 older people indicated that in older age:-

- 66% would wish to live in general housing, however, when pushed to state a preference should it not prove possible for them to remain in general housing, 42% chose retirement apartments and 37% sheltered housing with a manager.
- 5% expressed a wish to live in a residential care home
- 2% would opt to live in a nursing home.

It is clear that keeping Fosters open in the long term is not viable given the structural issues and so the options are whether to make further investment to make improvements where possible to an old building, or proceed with a planned and co-ordinated closure and re-house the current residents.

WBC is therefore consulting with residents, their families and other stakeholders about these options. The consultation will run from 16th November until 8th February 2012.

There has been briefing sessions with staff on 15th November, followed by meetings with residents and their families on Wednesday 16th November to launch the consultation. A media briefing is also being held on the morning of Thursday 17th November at Alexandra Place.

Consultation materials explaining the process, options proposed and some of the questions people will have, are on the Wokingham website www.wokingham.gov.uk

For further information, please contact Mike Wooldridge 0118 974 6783 (mike.wooldridge@wokingham.gov.uk).