Introduction

This issue details an NHSGGC press release on an item discussed at today’s Board meeting.

Patients and carers to have their say on proposed service changes

Patients, community representatives and campaigners will have the opportunity through engagement processes being launched in September to give their views on four potential service changes in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

They will be invited to provide patients’ and carers’ perspective on the issues raised by the proposals and take part in workshops and other public events.

The Board of NHSGGC approved an inclusive approach to engagement at their meeting today (16 August 2016) to ensure that patients and the community have their say on the range of proposals being considered.

Four service changes were previously approved by the Board for public engagement. These are:

• Transfer of emergency and elective inpatient and day case care from Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley to the Royal Hospital for Children, with the retention of outpatient services, the specialist Community Paediatric service (PANDA), and emergency care for those who self-refer at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

• Reconfiguration of inpatient rehabilitation services in the north east of Glasgow with acute rehabilitation being provided at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Stobhill Hospital or Gartnavel General Hospital and those requiring ongoing rehabilitation being transferred to local community facilities. Under the proposals, day hospital service at Lightburn would transfer to Stobhill Hospital and outpatient services would remain locally available.

• Retain all ante-natal and postnatal services at the Community Maternity Units with midwife led births in Royal Alexandra Hospital, Princess Royal Maternity Hospital and Queen Elizabeth University Hospital or at home. The birthing facilities in the Vale of Leven Hospital and the Inverclyde Royal Hospital Community Maternity Unit would cease to operate.

• Shift the Centre for Integrative Care to become an ambulatory service providing the full range of current service as an outpatient and day case service with arrangements for admission or overnight accommodation only in exceptional circumstances.
John Brown, Chairman, said: “There has been already significant interest in the proposals and it is only right that the public have an opportunity to hear the clinical case for change and to have their views heard.

“We want to ensure that all affected, including those who have campaigned against change, are able to become fully involved in this process of service modernisation.

“Our services are continually evolving and improving. Whilst the proposals do signal change, it is important to stress that, in each instance we are planning to retain local services within local communities.

“For instance, in the case of the Centre for Integrative Care, we propose to retain day case and outpatient services on the same site.

“With the paediatric ward and the Community Maternity Units, outpatient services would remain on site and in the case of Lightburn, we are working with the Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership to develop a proposal for the substantial development of local community services on the Parkhead site.”

Public engagement will launch early in September.

Click here to read the full Board paper.