Understanding the impact of proposed changes to rehabilitation services in North East Glasgow on health inequalities in the area.

Situation
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is consulting on proposals to improve the way rehabilitation services for older people in the North East of Glasgow are provided.

The Director of Public Health has been asked to assess the impact of the changes, in particular the closure of Lightburn Hospital, on health inequalities in the area. This paper describes the scope of the assessment which will be undertaken during the consultation process.

Purpose and scope of this assessment
The impact of the proposed changes on patients, their families and transport has been considered in the consultation document and in the existing EQIA. This assessment of the impact of the proposed changes on health inequalities will focus on the wider determinants of health such as employment, the local economy, potential uses of the Lightburn site and the well-being of the local community.

This assessment will consider the potential impact of the proposed changes in the area defined in the accompanying map and postcodes. Feedback from the stakeholder reference group revealed that there is no one set definition of what constitutes the local community. For the purpose of the following assessment, we will define the local community as the three postcode sectors surrounding Lightburn Hospital (G32 0, G32 6 and G33 3).

Impact on employment in the North East locality
According to neighbourhood profile data\(^1\) for the North East locality from the 2011 census, 53.5% of the population between 16 and 74 years of age i.e. 72,837 out of 136,066 individuals were in employment. The most recent NHS GGC health and wellbeing survey\(^2\) also showed that residents in Glasgow North East locality were more likely to have negative perception of the level of unemployment in their area, compared to perceptions of residents of Glasgow City overall.

The closure of a specific site will not result in the loss of jobs for any current staff but the review will assess the impact of proposed changes on future employment in the area, taking

\(^1\) compiled by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, and based on the 2011 census with respect to employment data (http://www.understandingglasgow.com/profiles)

into account other public service changes which may reduce or bring employment in the area.

Most hospital supplies and support are procured nationally or board-wide but this review will ascertain if any local contractors are used for facility maintenance and the potential impact from the changes proposed.

**Local ownership and identity**
The main focus of the responses to the engagement process for the proposed redesign to date have focussed on the impact on the patient population, with less information on the wider community.

Data from the health and wellbeing survey for the Glasgow North East locality will be analysed to describe residents’ sense of belonging in the area, their perceptions of being able to influence local decisions and their views of other aspects of their neighbourhood. Views on whether Lightburn Hospital is seen as part of the community will be explored with key stakeholders during the consultation process.

**Conclusions**
The main focus of this assessment will be on the potential economic and employment impact in the area. Local views of ownership and identity attached to the hospital with any potential impact on health and well-being will be considered. The impact on patients and relatives has been assessed as part of the development of the proposals and the EQIA.

We would like to invite comment and engagement on all aspects of this proposal including the geographical area under consideration or other determinants of health that should be examined. You can do this as an individual, group or organisation by e-mailing the Director of Public Health whose contact details are given below.

Dr Linda de Caestecker, Director of Public Health
(Linda.deCaestecker@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

Dr Beatrix von Wissmann, Registrar in Public Health
(Beatrix.vonWissmann@nhs.net)

7 February 2017.