

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10TH SEPTEMBER 2012

SUBJECT:	Cancer Services in Cheshire and Merseyside
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All
REPORT OF:	Jon Hayes Deputy Director of Clinical Networks Cheshire and Merseyside Networks
KEY DECISION? <i>(Defined in paragraph 13.3 of Article 13 'Decision Making' in the Council's Constitution.)</i>	YES/NO <i>(delete as applicable)</i>

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This paper has been prepared to:

- Provide information on the work that has been taking place in Cheshire and Merseyside to consider and bring forward proposals for the development of world class cancer services in Cheshire and Merseyside through the establishment of a new Cancer Centre in Liverpool in conjunction with The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, while retaining many services at Clatterbridge to ensure local access, and the further development of services across the area;
- Support the wide-ranging communication and involvement exercise designed to share the proposals with a wide range of stakeholders across Cheshire and Merseyside and further afield where appropriate.

1.2 The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust is the provider of radiotherapy and chemotherapy for the network's population. The Royal Liverpool University Hospital provides the majority of other tertiary cancer services, including specialist surgery, radiology and pathology. The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust's base in Bebington, Wirral, is not centrally located for the population it serves, with 67% of the population living north of the River Mersey. The uneven distribution of cancer incidence means that approximately 73% of all cancer patients live north of the river.

1.3 The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre's main base at Bebington is isolated from other specialist cancer services and cannot provide acute services such as intensive care for the sickest of patients. Opportunities to pursue ground-breaking innovations such as intra-operative radiotherapy are currently hampered by the physical separation of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre's main base from other acute hospital facilities and specialist cancer services.

1.4 The key elements of the vision are:

- Development of a specialist Clatterbridge Cancer Centre on the new Royal Liverpool University Hospital site in addition to the provision of outpatient radiotherapy, proton therapy, chemotherapy services on the Wirral;
- Enhanced research capacity (symbolised by more research beds);
- Retention of the outpatient radiotherapy service adjacent to The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust on the Aintree Hospital site;
- Maintenance of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust's current range of existing network clinic arrangements across Merseyside and Cheshire for chemotherapy. The trust provides chemotherapy treatments at clinics on nine hospital sites in the region.

1.5 The Royal Liverpool University Hospital site is shared with the University of Liverpool School of Cancer Studies, Cancer Research UK and the Clatterbridge Cancer Research laboratories, forming a 'bio-campus' of innovation and collaboration. Only The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust remains physically isolated from this important and growing research community. By expanding The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust's franchise to create a comprehensive cancer centre in partnership with other research teams, all patients, including those from Wirral and West Cheshire, will benefit from greater participation in international-standard research and clinical trials.

1.6 In brief these proposals are designed to ensure that the cancer services delivered for the people of Cheshire, Merseyside and beyond are of the highest possible quality and will:

- Ensure better co-ordination of pathways of care for cancer patients by bringing together key specialist services on a single campus, which currently hosts the majority of Specialist Cancer Multi-Disciplinary Teams (SMDTs);
- Ensure that patients benefit from closer integration between the NHS and research teams within the University of Liverpool and other key research partners e.g. Cancer Research UK;
- Enable more clinical trials to be undertaken leading to new medical innovations and treatments for cancer;
- Ensure that specialist services are located in a place most easily accessible to the majority of patients so that more patients could benefit from improved access, particularly those who need repeated and regular radiotherapy for certain types of cancer and for palliation;
- Make best use of NHS resources by enabling clinical teams to work more effectively and efficiently together;
- Be a focus for innovation and knowledge in all aspects of cancer care including medicine, nursing and supportive therapies;
- Maintain those NHS Services which are best delivered in more local settings including local district general hospitals and the community;
- Ensure that the majority of patients will continue to be treated nearer to home where safe to do so.

1.7 In making the above proposals it is recognised that certain patients will have to travel further for certain elements of their care. However, it is important to emphasise that

radiotherapy and chemotherapy services would continue to be provided on the original The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust site. Outpatient radiotherapy services for patients with more common cancers such as breast, prostate and lung would continue to be provided by Clatterbridge on Wirral, and the trust will continue to provide outpatient chemotherapy for the majority of cancer types locally across the region in district general hospitals, including at Clatterbridge. Only those patients who require more complex treatment, or require inpatient facilities – the minority - would be required to travel to the new Clatterbridge centre in Liverpool.

- 1.8 Fuller details of these proposals along with a range of statistics in relation to cancer incidence in Merseyside and Cheshire can be found in NHS Cheshire, Warrington & Wirral Board papers at http://www.wirral.nhs.uk/document_uploads/Boardcluster-Nov/Cluster-BoardPack-02-11-2011.pdf

2.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

- 2.1 The committee is invited to support proposals to develop a comprehensive cancer centre for Merseyside and Cheshire. This would be achieved by the expansion of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust from its current location on the Wirral into a new site adjacent to the Royal Liverpool University Hospital NHS Trust. The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust would maintain a base on the Clatterbridge site providing many outpatient chemotherapy and radiotherapy services for Wirral and West Cheshire patients

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APPENDICES

- A New Cancer Centre: Investing in the Future of Merseyside and Cheshire Report
B Equality Analysis for Cancer Centre (in place of Equality Impact Toolkit)

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Health and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Committee	18th June, 2012