

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIRRAL

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND INCLUSION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE: 8th NOVEMBER 2006

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF WIRRAL PCT (FORMERLY
BIRKENHEAD & WALLASEY PCT)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OF HEALTH

**PROPOSALS FOR THE MODERNISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
PRIMARY CARE FACILITIES IN WIRRAL PCT (FORMERLY BIRKENHEAD &
WALLASEY PCT): RELOCATION OF SEABANK MEDICAL CENTRE**

Executive Summary

This report informs Members about the proposal to relocate Seabank Medical Centre to new purpose-built premises adjacent to St Georges Medical Centre, Field Road, New Brighton. The report gives the final outcome of the public consultation on the proposal as at 1st September 2006.

1 Background

- 1.1 The proposal forms part of the PCT's Strategic Services Development Plan and Premises Strategy for improving the quality of primary and community health services buildings. The Social Care and Health Select Committee were informed of initial proposals at its meeting on 2nd September 2004. The public consultation was launched on 12th June 2006 and ended on 1st September 2006.
- 1.2 The proposed building will complement the existing health care premises, providing modern, light and accessible premises, including elevators and staircases. It will accommodate Seabank Medical Centre and provide additional clinical and treatment rooms for St Georges Medical Centre and the PCT.
- 1.3 Seabank Medical Centre will have its own separate reception desk, waiting area and consulting/treatment rooms. The building will also provide valuable accommodation for additional services closer to home for existing registered patients, such as enhanced minor surgery and diabetes care, diagnostic testing and improved opportunity for patient involvement/expert patient programme.
- 1.4 Improvements to the overall site will include a doubling of car parking spaces for patients, all of which will be prioritised to the front of the building for patient convenience. An independent traffic analysis demonstrated that the proposed development with additional parking will meet the forecast demand for spaces. The results have been shared with the Highways Department, local councillors and representatives for local

residents. The Highways Department have undertaken a separate traffic count study in Field Road.

- 1.5 A detailed Traffic Plan includes clear commitments to encouraging alternative modes of transport by employed staff at the two medical centres to further improve the traffic flow around the proposed development.

2 Results from the Consultation

- 2.1 Final results from the consultation leaflets/emails received as at 1st September 2006 are as follows;

570 replies received:-

Seabank Medical Centre patients AGREE	47
St Georges Medical Centre patients AGREE	338
Seabank Medical Centre patients DISAGREE	19
St Georges Medical Centre DISAGREE	9
Local residents AGREE	13
Local residents DISAGREE	108
PCT staff AGREE	3
Practice staff AGREE	15
Other health professional AGREE	4
Member of public AGREE	9
No views expressed either way	5
Total AGREE	429
Total DISAGREE	136
Total no views	5

The PCT also received a petition organised by a local resident containing 131 signatures, in opposition to the proposal. Much of this is perceived as difficulties around local parking. Analysis shows that 62 names that appear on the petition also submitted a letter of disagreement.

The consultation outcome was originally scheduled to be considered at the September meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) but was deferred and a subsequent query raised by Councillor Pritchard about the final number of replies was examined by the PCT. This identified that between the consultation end on 1st September 2006 and the OSC meeting on 5th September, errors had been made in collating final responses.

The responses detailed above are the corrected accurate figures.

3 Local Member Support Implications

These proposals relate to New Brighton ward.

4 Background Papers

Birkenhead and Wallasey PCT – Proposals for the modernisation and development of primary care facilities within the PCT – report to the Social Care and Health Select Committee 2 September 2004.

The consultation documents – CARING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY – PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE SEABANK MEDICAL CENTRE TO A NEW PURPOSE BUILT BUILDING ADJACENT TO ST GEORGES MEDICAL CENTRE, FIELD ROAD, WALLASEY.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Committee notes the final responses to the public consultation on the proposal to relocate Seabank Medical Centre to land adjacent to St Georges Medical Centre, Field Road, New Brighton.
- 5.2 The Committee notes the PCT Board's support for the proposed development as recorded in the Board minutes of 5th September 2006.
- 5.3 That the Committee makes its formal response.

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Date 19th October 2006