

WIRRAL PRIMARY CARE TRUST

BOARD PAPER REPORTING PROCESS AND OUTCOMES OF THE PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE CAVENDISH MEDICAL CENTRE TO THE CLAUGHTON MEDICAL CENTRE SITE AT PARK ROAD NORTH, BIRKENHEAD, WIRRAL

Introduction

1. The purpose of this paper is to report the outcome of the consultation process with regard to the above proposal to Wirral PCT Board and to recommend a way forward following consideration of the outcomes.

Summary

2. The aim of the consultation was to seek the views of patients from the two practices and members of the public regarding the relocation of Cavendish Medical Centre to Park Road North in Birkenhead (approximately half a mile from the current location). The reason for relocation is predominately that the premises occupied by Cavendish Medical Centre are no longer suitable for providing general medical services in primary care. The building is a semi-detached Victorian three story house which does not meet Disability Discrimination Act Access requirements and there are no parking facilities at the current location.
3. The proposed new building will be occupied by the developers and owners, viz Claughton Medical Centre. If the proposal is approved, Cavendish Medical Centre will relocate to these premises. The two practices will be housed in two separate areas within the building and will continue to function as independent services.

Consultation Process

4. Distribution of Consultation Leaflets

A total of 15,000 consultation leaflets were printed. 13,628 were distributed to all patients registered with the practices. This was done on behalf of the PCT by Central Operations Mersey (COM). Other stakeholders provided with the consultation information included PCT Staff (including Board and Professional Executive Committee), local pharmacies, local councillors and PCT Patient Forum.

5. Local Media Coverage

An advertisement was placed in the Birkenhead News to highlight the two Open Public Consultation Meetings.

6. Public Meetings

A number of public meetings were held to allow patients and members of the public to view the plans and put forward their comments and concerns.

Meeting and Venue	Date
Public Meeting Hamilton Memorial Church Birkenhead	27 March 2006 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm
PCT Public Meeting Birkenhead Park Rugby Club Birkenhead	15 May 2006 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Cloughton Community Group Birkenhead	Various dates in 2005 20 February 2006
Friends of Birkenhead Park Birkenhead	March 2006

The meetings provided the opportunity for people to meet and discuss the proposal with representatives from the practices, building developers, architects and PCT managers. Only a small number of people attended the meetings. The main concerns discussed were the number of car parking spaces, changes to practice systems and the cost of the development.

7. Written Responses

A total of 153 written responses were returned to the PCT. These are categorised as follows:

	Agree with Proposal	Disagree with Proposal
Patient of one of the two practices	150	9
Community Staff	0	0
Practice Staff	2	0
Other Health Professional	0	0
Member of the Public	1	0
Other/No comment		3
TOTAL		165

An e-mail address (Cavendish@bkwpcct.nhs.uk) was established. In total 12 responded were received using this method. The majority of the responses were from patients. These are included in the figures above and the feedback below.

8. Feedback from Responses

Overall 94% of the responses were agreeable to the relocation of Cavendish Medical Centre to the Cloughton Medical Centre site in Park Road North.

In summary the main comments in agreement with the relocation were as follows:

- New facilities/premises good idea
- New premises and services will benefit the community
- Good to have pharmacy available on site

In total 6% of respondents disagreed with the proposal. The main concerns were as follows:

- Concerns regarding adequate parking being available
- Not good use of resources available to support NHS treatment
- That there could be changes to appointment systems

9. Conclusion

The PCT have undertaken a full public consultation exercise and there is evidence of the majority of patients and general public being in support of the proposal.

In response to the concerns raised by patients and members of the public the PCT would like to assure them that:

There are currently no plans to change the appointment systems at either of the practices

There will be dedicated patient parking spaces available at the new site.

Recommendations

11. The PCT Board note the outcome of the consultation being in the main in support of the proposal.
12. The PCT Board note the comments of respondents.
13. The PCT Board support the relocation of Cavendish Medical Centre into fit for purpose premises.

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