



Responding to Secretary of State letter following referral of the permanent closure of consultant-led maternity services at the Horton General Hospital

Work Stream 6 Option Appraisal Process

The proposed approach to undertaking the option appraisal process is outlined in this paper.

1. Proposed Process

Friday 3 May - All panel members sent evidence packs (includes option descriptions, criteria descriptors, scoring matrix, workforce information, finance information, maternity survey report etc)

Panel members individually score all options (0-4 scale) against all criteria.

By 9 am Monday 13 May individual members of panel return scores for collation

Week beginning 20 May (date to be confirmed) all day panel event to come to consensus scores.

- Panel day will have Independent Chair, supported by Freshwater.
- Observers (invitations to be sent to Horton HOSC, MP's offices and Cherwell, South Northamptonshire and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils)
- After arriving at consensus score then weighting applied
- Final product of day scored and weighted list of options

2. Short list of options

Final short list as shared with Horton HOSC at February meeting (attached as Annexe 1).

3. Criteria

The agreed criteria and definitions are as shared at Stakeholder event (attached as Annexe 2). The participants at the event contributed to weighting of these criteria but the weighting will not be shared with panel members until after the scoring has been undertaken.

There was discussion about the addition of a criterion to do with reduction in inequalities. After further consideration our view is that additional criteria should not be added. The most important aspects of work to reduce inequalities is to focus on prevention to minimise the potential for adverse outcomes. In terms of this work that reduction in inequalities will be addressed through other criteria and in particular through:

- Clinical outcomes
- Patient and carer experience
- Distance and time to access services

In addition the relevant information from the Integrated Impact Assessment undertaken by Mott MacDonald from Phase 1 will be presented to the CCG Board alongside the outcome of the option appraisal as part of the decision making process.

4. Scoring Panel

It is proposed that the Scoring Panel should include stakeholder representatives as well as NHS staff. The following representation (subject to confirmation and availability) is suggested:

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group: Director of Governance, Head of Children's Commissioning; Locality Clinical Director or Deputy for North Oxfordshire Locality

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Clinical Director for Maternity, Medical Director, Head of Midwifery, a representative from the Horton MLU

Stakeholder representatives (to be asked if they wish to participate): Maternity Voices (user representative); Chair of Community Partnership Network (stakeholder representative of the Horton catchment area), Keep the Horton General (user representative). Healthwatch have been asked what role they would like to have (either on the scoring panel or observer).

South Warwickshire and Nene CCGs have confirmed that they support the proposed approach.

5. Post scoring

As previously reported to the Horton HOSC the output from the scoring panel will then be shared as follows:

14 June 2019 Stakeholder Event 2

1. Share the weighted scores with stakeholders
2. Present the reasons why the panel assigned the scores
3. Facilitate discussion to produce qualitative feedback on the scores

24 June 2019 Horton HOSC

The output of the scoring panel plus feedback from stakeholders from the event will be shared with the Horton HOSC for feedback.

The outputs from the Horton HOSC will form part of the submission to NHSE to complete the Assurance process.

26 September 2019

Once all these steps have been completed the output will form part of the final report will be presented to the OCCG Board for decision.