

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Health Scrutiny Committee
Date: 1 March, 2017
Report for: Health Scrutiny Committee
Report of: Stephen Gardner, Deputy Programme Director, Single Hospital Service

Report Title

Single Hospital Service Update

Summary

1. Introduction

The report identifies the good progress made against the action plan for the development of a Single Hospital Service for the City of Manchester and Trafford.

2. Progress

The first stage of the overall Single Hospital Service Programme is the merger of University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust and Central Manchester University Hospitals Foundation Trust (Project 1). The merger is being reviewed by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA). Submissions have now been made to the CMA in respect of the competition issues and the expected patient benefits.

Following a meeting with the CMA on 3 February, the CMA advised on 9 February that it was commencing its Phase 1 assessment. It is hoped that this will be dealt with as a "fast track" referral, meaning the CMA would have 15 days to commence its Phase 2 assessment. The Phase 2 process then takes a further 24 weeks.

The Programme Team also is progressing with the development of a Full Business Case aimed at submission to NHS Improvement by end of March 2017. The detailed technical Due Diligence exercises in the areas of Legal, Workforce, Estates, IM&T and Clinical issues are all now well underway, and are expected to complete in mid/late February. Finance Due Diligence also has been initiated. It is important that the Due Diligence work is available on this timescale to inform the development of the Business Case, prior to submission at the end of March 2017.

3. Governance

The previously established programme governance arrangements continue to function effectively. In particular all three Trusts, University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (UHSM), Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (CMFT) and Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust (PAHT) remain actively involved with the Programme although the current focus is on the first step in the transaction to merge UHSM and CMFT. Representatives from Commissioners and local authorities in Greater Manchester continue to play a key role in these discussions.

Work is underway to engage each Council of Governors to ensure Governors are adequately

supported to undertake their role in the merger process. Both Trusts have undertaken numerous independent briefing sessions with their respective Councils of Governors in recent months and two joint meetings have taken place with further sessions planned in March and April 2017. Alongside this, both sets of Governors are to receive presentations on the Programme Risk Register during February and arrangements are being made to provide Governors with independent legal advice as part of the preparations for voting on the assurance processes and related matters associated with the anticipated merger.

4. Engagement with NHS Improvement

Progress has been made with the NHS Improvement (NHS I) approvals process. The first stage is the Strategic Gateway, in respect of which an account of the strategic work undertaken to support the development of the Single Hospital Service was submitted to NHS I in November 2016. Further to commentary from NHS I on this documentation, a final version was approved and was submitted on 15 December 2016.

This has now been accepted by NHS Improvement and therefore, a formal Strategic Case for the creation of a new Trust is not required. The Programme Team is progressing with the development of a Full Business Case aimed at submission to NHS I by end of March 2017.

5. CQC Registration

Initial discussions with the CQC about the process for registration of the proposed new Foundation Trust have been held. The meeting was constructive and further meetings with national and regional CQC officers and Trust staff are being planned. The aim is to begin the process of registration application well in advance of the normal 12 -16 weeks normally required due to the scale and complexity of the proposed merger.

6. Communications and Engagement

Communications and engagement activity has been continuing both internally and externally. Engagement with wider stakeholders is set to increase during March. Regular engagement with patient and staff-side representatives has been taking place and will also increase during the coming month. Engagement for the proposed name of the new organisation will take place in March with support from the Trust Communications Teams and partner organisations.

Recommendation(s)

The Health Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the current position of the Single Hospital Service Programme.