

## **Committee: Merton Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 23 April 2013**

Agenda item: 9

Wards: All

### **Subject: St George's Consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust**

Lead officer: Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing

Lead member: Councillor Linda Kirby, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Forward Plan reference number:

Contact officer: Clarissa Larsen , Partnership Manager Health and Wellbeing Board, Stella Akintan, Scrutiny Officer

---

#### **Recommendations:**

- A To note the joint meeting of the Shadow HWB and Health Scrutiny on St George's consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust.
  - B To agree the response of the HWB to the consultation (in Appendix 1).
- 

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 St George's Healthcare NHS Trust is currently undertaking a consultation programme on its proposals to become a foundation trust.
- 1.2 A joint meeting of the Shadow HWB and Health Scrutiny was held on recently to hear the proposals and discuss them to prepare a response to the consultation.

#### **2. DETAILS**

- 2.1 The Health and Social Care Act requires all NHS Trusts to become NHS Foundation Trusts or part of an existing NHS Foundation Trust by April 2014. St George's Healthcare NHS Trust is currently undertaking a three month consultation on its proposals to become a foundation trust.

- 2.2 A joint meeting of the Shadow HWB and Health Scrutiny was held on March 19 in the Council Chamber to hear details of St George's proposals. The meeting was chaired by Councillor Linda Kirby.
- 2.3 Trudi Kemp Director of Strategic Development at St George's made a presentation and a discussion took place. A link to the presentation is included in Background Documents of this report.
- 2.4 A discussion took place on the consultation questions posed by St George's and on wider issues. On the basis of this discussion a proposed response has been prepared from Merton HWB this is included in Appendix 2 for agreement. A similar response has been drafted for agreement by Health Scrutiny.
- 2.4 Once the HWB response is agreed it will be submitted to St George's ahead of its deadline of 26 April. St George's also stressed that there is the opportunity for individuals to respond to the consultation directly by emailing [consultation@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 3.1 None for the purpose of this report.

### **4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1 All members of the HWB were invited to the joint meeting to consider St George's consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust.

### **5. TIMETABLE**

- 5.1 The consultation programme opened on 1 February and closes on 26 April.

### **6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None for the purpose of this report.

### **7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None for the purpose of this report.

### **8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None for the purpose of this report.

### **9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 None for the purpose of this report.

## **10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 None for the purpose of this report.

## **11. APPENDICES - THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

- Appendix 1 – Note from the joint shadow HWB and Health Scrutiny Meeting and proposed HWB response.

## **12 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1 St George's Healthcare NHS Trust  
Becoming a Foundation Trust Consultation



Becoming a  
Foundation Trust Spri

## **Appendix 1**

### **Joint meeting of Merton Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny**

**19 March 2013**

#### **St George's Healthcare NHS Trust - Consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust**

Attendees: Cllr Linda Kirby (Chair), Cllr Suzanne Evans (Vice Chair), Cllr Margaret Brierly, Cllr Logie Lohendran, Cllr Peter McCabe, Cllr Brenda Fraser, Cllr Maurice Groves, Chris Frost (MVSC), Myrtle Agutter (Merton Seniors Forum), Laura Johnson (Rethink), Shelia Knight, Saleem Sheikh, Trudi Kemp, Director of Strategic Development, St George's

In attendance: Rahat Ahmed Man, Stella Akintan, Clarissa Larsen

#### **Notes and HWB Proposed Response**

TK gave a detailed presentation giving some background to the proposal. She outlined Foundation Trust (FT) status, the process of achieving FT status and what it will mean for staff and proposals for Membership and Governors. A copy of the slide presentation is attached in the report.

The presentation set a series of questions to form the basis of the **HWB response**:

#### **Q 1 Do you agree with the priorities we have set to help us achieve our vision?**

Representatives agreed this but stressed the need to maintain strong safeguarding.

#### **Q2 Do you agree with our plans for public membership?**

Representatives agreed this. TK confirmed there will be no limit on numbers of members.

#### **Q3 Do you agree with our plans for public constituencies?**

Representatives agreed this with the exception that:

- four staff reps were not sufficient given the important voice and insight to services that staff can provide.
- the need to have clear job descriptions / person specifications for the role of Governor to effectively match skills to the role.

#### **Q4 Do you agree with our proposals for the minimum age of members?**

Representatives agreed this

#### **Q5 Do you agree with our proposals for the minimum age of Governors?**

Representatives said that the minimum age to be a Governor should be 18.

**Q6 Do you agree with our proposals for a younger person's forum?**

Representatives agreed this

**Q7 Do you agree with our proposals for the council of Governors?**

Representatives agreed this with the exceptions:

- there should be more staff Governors
- the minimum age of Governors should be 18
- there should be a clear job description / person specification for the role of Governor
- consideration should be given to encouraging Governors to stand to achieve a diverse council of Governors that reflects the local population served by St George's

**Q8 Do you have any other views or comments about our proposals?**

A discussion took place. Summary of comments:

- St George's involvement with a private provider could potentially impact on capacity. Regardless of this, in relation to BSBV St George's stated it would be 'physically possible to increase capacity as needed'.
- It was stressed that St George's must remain committed to a collaborative approach if it became an FT.
- That there should be transparency at St George's in relation to all information.
- That St George's continue to encourage feedback from patients and staff by expanding use of hand held tablets and other feedback methods to put patient experience at the centre of all developments.

TK reiterated the opportunity for all to comment and said that the proposals are very likely to change in line with comments received through the consultation programme.

This page is intentionally blank