

NHS LANARKSHIRE

A PICTURE OF HEALTH

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL SERVICES

BACKGROUND

1. The Board's long-term strategy for the provision of emergency hospital inpatient services is to provide for the needs of the population of Lanarkshire through a reconfiguration and modernisation of existing hospital sites and systems, by late 2010.
2. The broad intention is that the Board will provide acute care services for its own populations through its own services. The exceptions to this are the populations of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth which for the convenience of patients will, from late 2010, be provided with emergency inpatient services at the new Hospital at Larbert, currently being commissioned by NHS Forth Valley.
3. Planned care services for people living in these communities will continue as at present, with the majority continuing to be referred to Monklands and the remainder to hospitals in Glasgow. Detailed discussions are continuing with GP practices and with colleagues in Glasgow and Forth Valley to plan the best way of managing the implications of these changes, in order to ensure the best possible care for patients.

NEW FORTH VALLEY HOSPITAL

4. NHS Forth Valley is expected to consider the Full Business Case for the new hospital at Larbert, at their Health Board meeting later in January 2007; it is important that at the same time, NHS Lanarkshire is able to commit to the arrangements required to secure the necessary services for the people of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth.
5. A series of Director level (and some clinical) discussions have been taking place between NHS Lanarkshire and NHS Forth Valley since late 2005, formalised through a Joint Planning Steering Group established in October 2006. Work is ongoing to define the clinical model which NHS Forth Valley are adopting, and to agree the financial framework within which NHS Lanarkshire will pay for the hospital services involved, which have currently been anticipated within this Board's financial plan.

CONCLUSION

6. At the time of writing this paper, specific details within the Full Business Case were still being finalised and it is the intention of the Director of Finance to present the principles for a financial framework with NHS Forth Valley to the Board for approval at its meeting on 24th January.
7. In the meantime, the Board is asked to note that a very constructive working relationship has been established with NHS Forth Valley, and joint planning has been progressing positively.

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