

---

# Community Hospital Project Briefing

December 2005

To: All West Gloucestershire PCT staff and local stakeholders

From: Project Manager, Ellen Rule

*Note to PCT Managers: Please communicate this information to your staff within **48 hours**. Please use staff meetings, forwarded email, noticeboards and any other methods available.*

*PCT website: [www.westglospct.org.uk](http://www.westglospct.org.uk)*

---

## **Where have we got to?**

Good progress is being made in taking the hospitals review project forward. Ellen Rule who took on the role of Project Manager in September has been working hard to collate the work done to date and establish the project structure to ensure an inclusive approach to developing the service models.

There have been a number of public commitments made about the future of the two hospitals and full consideration is now being given to the service options. Clinical leaders on the PEC have developed a clinical strategy for the PCT and have agreed that this strategy should be integral to any service development activity that our organisation undertakes. It is therefore clear that any development of services at our community hospital facilities should be in line with this strategy.

The project team is keen to receive any feedback you may have on the proposed approach to take this work forward which is described below. Please can you pass any comments or suggestions to Ellen Rule, Senior Manager Service Development. Ellen can be contacted by email on [ellen.rule@glos.nhs.uk](mailto:ellen.rule@glos.nhs.uk), by phone on 01452 389486 or by post at Highnam Business Centre.

## **How is the project moving forward?**

The project team have divided the project into a number of work streams, each of which is considering a service area.

Progress has been made on a number of these, particularly in bringing the background information together to help inform our debate. We will be joining up with community hospital staff meetings to present our findings and to invite your involvement in developing the final options for presentation in the public consultation document.

Some examples on work we have progressed:

- The PCT held a GP workshop with the Forest GP Reps to ask for their thoughts on how we can make best use of our community hospitals bed resource both now and in the future
- Consideration has been given to how we use our MIU's and how to maximise the use of this important resource. A wide range of data has been produced as supporting evidence that presents a clear picture as to how and when people are accessing this service
- A review of the theatre activity is taking place, including how we can learn from the primary care led podiatry and carpal tunnel services being undertaken at Lydney, and potentially extend this type of provision
- The older people's mental health strategy is linking with the community hospitals review project to give consideration to the role of community hospitals in the provision of mental health services to older people in the Forest.

### **Providing high quality services and reducing risk**

Throughout this work the team will ensure that good clinical practice is the focus of any proposed service models. We are committed to fulfilling the objectives of the review to provide a wide range of community hospital services that are fully used, accessible, safe for patients and financially viable. It is also important that these services have the support of the local population.

### **Get Involved!**

As previously mentioned wider involvement in this work is very much welcomed and we will be joining up with Lydney and Dilke staff meetings in December to brief you further on the work streams that are underway. In the meantime if you have any thoughts on how we can best take this work forward we look forward to hearing from you.

The discussions around the future of hospital services in the Forest of Dean are of interest to a wide range of groups. As part of the work to take this project forward we have revisited the list of stakeholders and the communications plan. When the proposed service model is nearing completion a revised schedule for public consultation will be shared. Thank you to all those people who fed their views back as part of our involvement survey on services. We have collated this information and this will help inform our work as we develop service options.

## **Project Working Structure**

**Project Director:** John Ford

**Project Manager:** Ellen Rule

**Project Board:** Liz Boait (Chair)  
Ellen Rule (Senior Manager, Service Delivery)  
John Ford (Director Service Delivery)  
Amanda Fisk (Director Performance and Corporate Development)  
Jan Marriott (Director Clinical Development)  
Steve Powell (PCT finance)  
Paul Weiss (GP Mitcheldean)  
Martin Gibbs (GP Blakeney)  
Anthony Dallimore (Communications)

### **Terms of reference for project board**

- To oversee the implementation of the Community Hospitals Review Project
- To take a strategic view on the 'service options' aspect of the review and development of any subsequent capital schemes
- To set overall project direction and to ensure that the project timescales are met by the project team (in the short term endorse revised timetable)
- To review national comparative models as presented by the project manager to take a strategic view on best practice ideas for local developments
- To act as a reference point for the project team
- To oversee the stakeholder engagement aspect of the strategy

**Project Team:** John Ford (Chair)  
Ellen Rule  
David Dungworth  
Ann Jarvis-Wanklin  
Liam Williams  
Melanie Getgood  
Maria Metherall  
Kathy Pitt  
Sarah Hammond

**Workgroups:** As required