

ND ref. FOI/16/290

Freedom of Information

Thank you for your 04/10/16 request for the following information:

Please accept this as a Freedom of Information request.

With regard to the proposed restructuring of the Health Service provision in Devon by the STP and Success Regime, would you please advise of the Risk Assessments carried out for the entire region of Northern Devon in the following areas:

1. Maternity following the removal of Obstetric and Neonatal support at NDDH. This to include particular reference to unforeseen complications at delivery and what provision there is to transport patients to specialist treatment in time to effect a safe outcome for mother and child. Please also advise under what circumstances would both lives be in jeopardy.

Answer: No proposals or decisions have been made about the maternity services across Devon. The Success Regime and STP will be undertaking a review of all services as outlined in the case for change to establish clinically safe and sustainable services for the future. The maternity, paediatric, stroke and emergency services review will start shortly and will involve a broad spectrum of clinicians and key stakeholders. The risk assessment will be undertaken through this process to arrive at the optimum model of care of the population of Devon. There is an absolute commitment to engage with the public through the review process.

2. Stroke following the relocation of specialist services to Exeter, in addition to the Risk Assessment, please advise how you would accommodate transferring a Stroke patient to an appropriate Centre of Excellence within the 'Golden Hour' from the outer reaches of the region during periods of high traffic and bad weather.

Answer: Please see answer to question 1.

3. Mental Health. Please advise how the closure of the night time Mental Health Crisis Team has affected those suffering from Mental Health. What impact has this had on people being driven to extreme measures and how many people are involved? Please also advise of the impact of being held in Police custody for those that are being driven to extreme measures and are thankfully retrieved.

Answer: Devon Partnership Trust, with other key stakeholders, have reviewed the need for the mental health crisis teams. This forms a part of the mental health crisis concordat. The needs of mental health patients at time of crisis are paramount and therefore the review of these services across Devon has led to an improvement of these services. There has not been any reduction of the service provided.

4. Pediatric Care. Please advise exactly what the limitations of Service Provision will be on Pediatric Care under the STP and Success Regime's proposals.

Answer: Please see answer to question 1.

5. A & E, In addition to a Risk assessment for the splendid A & E dept, Please advise how the proposed reduction of Acute Services will impact on A & E's ability to effectively act as a fully functioning A & E dept.

Answer: Please see answer to question 1.

6. Ambulance Services.

Please advise what additional arrangements are being proposed to accommodate the transfer of Patients from the point of need to the nominated Service Provider within the 'Golden Hour' for Acute Patients.

Answer: Please see answer to question 1.

Please advise if any of this information is publicly available, please indicate where/how it may be obtained.

If you consider that you do not hold any of the requested information, please advise where it can be obtained.

If you consider that there is not a public interest justification for providing any of the requested information, please provide your reasons for this judgement.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email, and provide details of how the request will be dealt with.

I am a member of the Save Our Hospital Services group and intend to make this information available to the group.