

For the latest reconfiguration
update - see page 2 ...

External review welcomed by Trust

The Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) announced on Monday 22nd October their intention to undertake an investigation into inpatient general medical care of older people at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

CHI was set up by the government to improve the quality of patient care in the NHS across England and Wales. It can do this through routine assessment visits or through investigations.

As most staff are probably aware the announcement comes in the light of concerns about the standard of certain aspects of care at Gosport back in 1998/9 voiced by several complainants through Portsmouth News articles in April 2001.

The investigation is likely to last about 24 weeks, from late October. The initial stages are largely concerned with information gathering, followed by a one week visit by a team from CHI to the hospital - this is likely to be in January.

The investigation will involve patients, staff and stakeholders and provide opportunities for staff and members of the public to talk to the team in confidence.

CHI will publish a report, with recommendations, at the end of its investigation (mid April seems likely).

We are expecting some local (possibly national) media coverage about this. It will not be an easy time for those involved, but we will be try to get some clear messages across:

- *we welcome the CHI investigation as it affords the opportunity to have a thorough look at the service from an independent perspective.*
- *we will be happy to work alongside CHI to ensure that we apply whatever lessons that can be learned to further improve the service we offer.*
- *the Trust has full confidence in the staff who work at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and in the excellent services that they provide. We are keen to support them during the review process to ensure that they can contribute to it fully.*
- *we recognise that concerns were expressed publicly about the care provided in specific cases at the hospital, in 1998, but we hope that the CHI visit will help reassure people about the care provided today and allow us to demonstrate the progress we have made in service provision over the past two or three years.*

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Teams celebrate award success

Last week we brought you news of the individual winners of this year's Trust awards. Now it's the turn of the **teams** for the spotlight. Well done to all the recipients on their fantastic achievements...

That includes the smiling faces of the **Eastern Rd Learning disability team** performance award winners, brought together specifically to help a client with very complex needs, the team achieved a positive outcome from a near impossible situation which has shaped care provision for the future.

see page 4 for more successful
smiling faces...

PICTURE OF HEALTH

This Week

Fitness

Reconfiguration

Diaries

Winners

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PORTSMOUTH MINORITY ETHNIC STAFF NETWORK

Conference on reconfiguration
Inn Lodge, Portsmouth
11 December 2001, 9am - 4.30pm
*Includes sessions on reconfiguration,
improving working lives, clinical
governance, stress and an RCN perspec-
tive.*

Applications from **FLORISE ELLIOTT, 4th
floor. Maternity Unit, St Mary's Hospital
PO3 6AD.**

ACCOMMODATION ... ACCOMMODATION
Rooms to let in well furnished house,
Southsea, from mid October to end March
(date could be extended by mutual con-
sent). Use of all household facilities, £200
pcm plus cost of electricity, gas & phone
as used. Visit & references will be required.
Tel: 023 9282 7357, leave number & short
message & your call will be returned.

WANTED ... WANTED ... WANTED ...

LEAFLET RACK - Anything considered but
preferably wall mounted, will collect if
needed. Tel: Libby Evans, Health Visitor,
Sure Start Centre, 023 9283 5834.

Fitness classes by A2Z Fitness

LEGS, BUMS AND TUMS - Milton Hall
(next to Milton Library) - Mondays, 8.00
- 9.00pm

FATBURNER - Stacey Club, Walsall Rd,
Copnor - Tuesdays, 6.30 - 7.30pm

LEGS, BUMS AND TUMS - The Board
Room, St Marys Road - Wednesdays,
6.00 - 7.00pm

STRETCH AND FLEX - The Board Room,
St Marys Road - Thursdays, 6.30 -
7.30pm

Just bring a drink and towel - all
mats supplied.

For further info please ring Tony or
Zoe on 023 9229 8105.

Change to telephone directory

The fax number for Sally Dixon has
been published incorrectly, it should read
01329 825519.

Please amend your directories.

Portsmouth Healthcare Chap- laincy Service

The following services will be held
on *Sunday 11th November, Remem-
brance Day*, at the Chapel, St. James'
Hospital.

6.30pm - Music for Reflection

**7.15pm - Remembrance Service and
Eucharist for Healing**

Reconfiguration update

PROPOSALS FOR EACH SERVICE - WHERE WE ARE

Agreement has already been
reached for most clinical and
support services, the following
covers progress in the past

month for those services still awaiting a final decision:

Physical Disability - Directly employed staff will transfer to East
Hants PCT and the management of contract beds will be with
Fareham & Gosport PCT.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Acute Inpatient Physiotherapy - Still under discussion between
PCTs.

Communications, Estates & Capital Planning - Decision awaited
on which Primary Care Trust will host these services.

Clinical Effectiveness - A service is likely to be established in
each of the three PCTs with one taking responsibility for overall
coordination. Final agreement to be reached on 25th October 2001.

The Chief Executives Group is meeting on Thursday (25th Octo-
ber) and we are hoping for a final decision on these then.

TIMETABLE

Staff will have received summary information on the public
consultation arrangements which are due to be concluded on 30th
November 2001. Subject to the outcome of this consultation the
target date for service transfers is still 1st April 2002.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Project plans for all service transfers have been prepared and the
project teams are now working through the numerous tasks which
need to be completed to close down the existing organisational
arrangements and transfer these to successor organisations.

Work has started on the preparation of the legal documentation
needed to dissolve the Trust and to transfer the staff, land, build-
ings and equipment to the local PCTs and to the West Hampshire
Trust.

STAFF TRANSFERS

Staff whose future employer has been agreed will receive letters
of confirmation of transfer late October/November (*NB. we hope
that the future employer will have been identified for virtually all
staff by the end of this month.*)

For those few staff whose transfer is not yet confirmed, separate
briefing arrangements are in place and we are doing our best to
clarify their position and to support them through the uncertainty.

FURTHER INFORMATION

These reconfiguration update sheets are prepared on a **monthly**
basis to go with Information Exchange and are repeated in *Commu-
nicate* too.

Any further developments during the month will be publicised
through a regular reconfiguration update section which can now
be found each week in *Communicate*.

SJH Catering Dept update

Amnesty on the return of cutlery;
if you have any cutlery, crockery or
other bits and pieces which should
have been returned to the Staff
Dining Room or Catering Dept please

return them ASAP. We have Christmas looming up and a shortage
of cutlery to eat Christmas Dinners with.

Also, due to vast amounts of china, glassware and cutlery disap-
pearing from the Staff Dining Room we are restricting beverage
requests in the areas of Minstead and Overton. We will be happy to
supply a service based in the Coffee Lounge for these two areas.

Thank you

Catering Department