

**HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
3 JULY 2014**

**FRIMLEY PARK HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides background information for the meeting with the Chief Executive of Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel meets Mr Andrew Morris, Chief Executive of Frimley Park Hospital NHS Trust, with particular reference to the Trust's services to residents of Bracknell Forest, and progress on the Trust's prospective acquisition of Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To inform the discussion with Mr Morris.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Panel determined at its meeting on 7 January that it would formally meet each major hospital Trust nearby at least once every two years. The last Panel meeting with representatives of Frimley Park Hospital on overall issues was on 2 February 2012. The minute of that meeting is attached.

- 5.2 To assist the Panel's deliberations, attached to this report are:

- Relevant summary information from the websites of Frimley Park Hospital, and Monitor
- The latest inspection report by the Care Quality Commission
- A briefing paper from Frimley Park Hospital on the proposed acquisition

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Not applicable.

Contact for further information

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HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 2 FEBRUARY 2012

Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Executive of Frimley Park NHS Foundation Trust, Mr Andrew Morris to the meeting and invited him to address the Panel on the provision of health services to Bracknell Forest residents. Mr Morris made the following points:

- He had been the Chief Executive at Frimley Park Hospital for 23 years and seen a lot of change in that time. Frimley Park served a collection of three towns that were very different and workload over the years had increased. In 23 years, the hospital had never overspent.
- Frimley Park Hospital had become a Foundation hospital in 2005 and had been rated highly through numerous inspections. The Care Quality Commission's spot checks had raised no concerns. The C. Difficile rate was the lowest in the south of England. Mortality rates were in the best decile nationally. Frimley Park's Maternity Services had been rated the second best in the Country and the National Patient Survey had placed the hospital in the top 20% of hospitals nationally. MONITOR is satisfied that the Trust's finances are sound. Frimley Park is a good hospital, the results spoke for themselves.
- Frimley Park served around 400 patients a month and staff at the hospital liked to work at the hospital. Happy staff equalled good care.
- The hospital strived to provide more consultant-led care and was currently trying to move towards 24/7 care. Maternity services had 8-9 hours of consultant cover daily, as well as a midwife led unit operating in close proximity.
- A new Trauma Unit was also to be developed which would include a helicopter pad on the roof of the hospital.
- Frimley Park had become the biggest provider for Bracknell Forest residents in recent times. The Chief Executive wanted to build contact with Bracknell Forest GPs, to respond to the interest shown by local residents. He was very committed to providing services to Bracknell Forest residents, particularly given current referral patterns. He was committed to the Healthspace and if GPs wanted a minor injuries unit, he would be happy to consider this.
- If patients had a bad experience at Frimley Park, he was keen to meet them personally or write to them.
- Frimley Park did currently experience problems with car parking, however they were working closely with Surrey Heath Borough Council to resolve this. It was hoped that another car park could be established at the back of the hospital.
- The hospital had an out of hours GP service that operated close to the hospital, patients could be sent there if they did not need A&E services. A local minor injuries unit in Bracknell would also take pressure away from A&E services.
- He stated that it was important that boundaries did not prevent Bracknell Forest residents from using Frimley Park.
- The hospital worked in close and successful collaboration with the Council's adult social care department, endeavouring to support and encourage people to remain in their own homes as much as possible.

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The Chairman thanked the Chief Executive for his input and attendance and asked if it was possible for the Panel members to visit Frimley Park. The Chief Executive stated the Panel were welcome to visit the hospital.

From Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Website

Frimley Park Hospital is a leading NHS foundation trust hospital serving more than 400,000 people across north-east Hampshire, west Surrey and east Berkshire, although its catchment for some services such as emergency vascular and heart attacks is much wider.

In addition to the main hospital site at Frimley, it runs outpatient and diagnostic services from [Aldershot](#), Farnham, Fleet and [Bracknell](#), bringing a range of services closer to these communities.

Frimley Park was named as NHS Hospital Trust of the Year for the South of England in the Dr Foster Hospital Guide 2013.

Since becoming one of the first NHS hospital trusts in the country to achieve foundation status in 2005, Frimley Park has been able to use surpluses to invest in patient services. The summer of 2012 saw the culmination of one of the trust's biggest capital programmes with the completion of its multi-million pound new emergency department which is believed to include one of the biggest resus units in the country, with a day surgery unit above and helipad. It also opened its dedicated cardiology wing housing an accredited regional heart attack centre providing primary angioplasty, the gold standard emergency treatment for heart attacks, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

These developments serve the strategic aim of underpinning the hospital's status as a hyper-acute centre. However, there have also been significant investments in elderly and end-of-life care.

The trust's maternity unit has an enviable reputation as one of the best in London and the South East. In 2012/13, 5,564 babies were born at Frimley Park. The unit was awarded the highest level 3 safety rating in the latest CNST assessment and was ranked joint top nationally in the latest CQC survey of women's experiences.

Frimley Park is one of only a handful of trusts to achieve NHSLA level 3 safety ratings for both acute trust and maternity services.

Our friendly, caring and professional staff constantly strive to offer the best possible hospital experience for patients. In the last national staff survey, our staff were rated as the most motivated of any hospital in the NHS.

Frimley Park is also proud to host a Ministry of Defence Hospital Unit with military surgical, medical and nursing personnel fully integrated with the hospital's NHS staff providing care to patients in all specialties.

Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has strong links to the community through its 16,000-strong foundation trust members representing patients, other stakeholders and staff.

POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF HEATHERWOOD AND WEXHAM PARK HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

THE JOINT STATEMENT BELOW FROM THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF BOTH FRIMLEY PARK HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST AND HEATHERWOOD AND WEXHAM PARK HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST WAS ISSUED IN FEBRUARY:

Following work in 2013 on an outline business case looking into the acquisition of Heatherwood and Wexham Park NHS Foundation Trust (HWPH) by Frimley Park Hospital

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NHS Foundation Trust (FPH), the FPH board agreed in August to proceed to the next stage subject to further assurances from the relevant authorities.

The FPH board is now able to announce that it is in a position to begin work on a full business case which will examine the prospects of the acquisition in much greater detail. Finalising the full business case is likely to take several months and is due to be finished by the summer. Once completed it will form the basis of the case made to each trust's board and Council of Governors and to the Office of Fair Trading and Monitor, the foundation trust regulator, in seeking their agreement for the acquisition to go ahead.

The boards of both trusts remain in favour of the acquisition provided conditions are right. An acquisition would, for example, provide a larger catchment population to enable the enlarged trust to sustain existing specialist services.

The acquisition would also provide an option to develop the Heatherwood Hospital site as a centre for planned surgery to serve patients from both trusts' existing catchments, taking some pressure away from both the Frimley and Wexham Park sites.

However, no final decision has yet been made and the acquisition will only proceed if it is felt to be in the best interests of both trusts and the patients they serve.

End of statement

Note: The Office of Fair Trading is now known as the Competition and Markets Authority.

To date we have been sharing information about the potential acquisition publicly as and when we are able to. This includes liaising with our local health partners and outlining our position at public meetings, some of which have been reported in the local media.

Under the potential acquisition we would not be proposing any significant changes to local services or where they would be provided. Therefore we will not be holding a formal public consultation.

However we appreciate that there is a public interest and we have been including the latest information on the potential acquisition as part of our [programme of health events](#) across our local community.

These events are free and open to all. They are an opportunity for you to receive any news about the trust and to meet governors and senior managers, ask questions and raise concerns on all matters. Events are typically well attended with an average of more than 100 people at each one in the past year and everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a foundation trust member.

There are a number of [health events](#) being held across the area over the coming weeks. These are advertised on the [Membership](#) section of our website and circulated to all of our 15,000 foundation trust members.

In addition we will be continually reviewing how we keep you informed and address any queries and concerns as we get closer to a potential acquisition date.

Monitor Website

Monitor publishes 2 ratings for each NHS foundation trust.

- The continuity of services rating is Monitor's view of the risk that the trust will fail to carry on as a going concern. A rating of 1 indicates the most serious risk and 4 the least risk. A rating of 2* means the trust has a risk rating of 2 but its financial position is unlikely to get worse.
- The governance rating is Monitor's degree of concern about how the trust is run, any steps they are taking to investigate this and/or any action they are taking. They either indicate they have no evident concerns, that they have begun enforcement action, or that the foundation trust's rating is 'under review', which means they have identified a concern but not yet taken action.

Monitor's current ratings of Frimley Park Hospital Trust are:

Continuity of services – 4

Governance – Green

Monitor's additional comment is: 'No evident concerns'