

Email from HOLD Campaigner to our Governing Body. Received COP on Tuesday 26/01/21

As the CCG will be meeting on Thursday and on the agenda is the Forest of Dean report of the recent consultation outcomes, I would like the board to be aware of our petition that I attach and would like to ask the board the following question please: "As we are aware from the results of the consultations the majority of people in the Forest of Dean strongly disagree with your proposals to replace 2 hospitals with one and taking into account our petition which has now reached over 1000. We urge the CCG to reconsider because we believe it is in the best interests for everyone that this decision is reviewed, the consultation outcome document doesn't show the figures for the number of patients from the Forest of Dean that are inpatients in other hospitals around the county. Please can the board address these issues for us and explain if they will review the healthcare provision, as we have not yet been told what will happen with these two existing hospitals?
Regards
Campaigner for HOLD

Response from NHS Gloucestershire CCG:

The decision to develop a new hospital for the Forest of Dean was made in January 2018, as was the decision on where to locate the new hospital. The NHS has already made significant progress towards this development, including investing in the purchase of a site for the new hospital. It is our intention, as we have previously stated, that this new hospital will be a replacement for the existing Lydney and Dilke hospitals, both of which are no longer 'fit for purpose' facilities to deliver modern NHS services. This fact has been further highlighted during the recent COVID-19 pandemic when a significant proportion of services previously operating from these sites had to be closed as the facilities could not meet the required infection, prevention and control standards. For these reasons, we do not intend to reopen the decision to build a new community hospital for the Forest of Dean.

With regards to admissions for Forest residents to other hospitals in the county, we have made a range of bed modelling information available on our website www.fodhealth.nhs.uk/consultation/ throughout the consultation and engagement processes that we have undertaken on the Forest community hospital. We enclose a table from our bed modelling, which is updated with further data for 2018 and 2019.

The data shows that the number of Forest of Dean residents receiving care in other community hospitals is very low. There was a small increase in the last year measured (2018/19) which reflects the change in pathway that has resulted from the opening of the new specialist Vale Hospital Stroke Rehabilitation Unit. Patients who need to receive care in the Vale Stroke Rehabilitation Unit require specialist care and

support, would not be suitable for admission to either Lydney hospital, the Dilke or in future the new Forest Community Hospital.

We have not included data from 2020 given that COVID-19 has led to significant service disruption across our county. Since March 2020, many of the community hospital beds in the Forest of Dean hospitals have been closed as the services delivered from the ageing estate are unable to meet the required infection prevention and control standards.

Table 1: Data on admissions for Forest residents to community hospitals

| | Sep-14- Aug-15 | Sept- 15-Aug- 16 | Sept- 16-Aug- 17 | Sept- 17-Aug- 18 | Sept- 18-Aug- 19 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Number of Direct Admissions to Lydney and the Dilke (no. of Forest Residents) | 131 | 126 | 92 | 86 | 70 |
| Transfers from Gloucestershire Hospitals Trust to Forest Hospitals (Number of Forest Residents) | 310 | 271 | 235 | 252 | 282 |
| Total Forest Residents in Forest Hospitals both Direct Admissions and Transfers | 441 | 397 | 327 | 338 | 352 |
| Direct Admissions to Other Community Hospitals (Number of Forest Residents) | 16 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| Transfers from Gloucestershire Hospitals Trust to other Community Hospitals (Number of Forest Residents) | 22 | 19 | 7 | 7 | 23 |
| Total forest Residents in Other Community Hospitals both Direct Admissions and Transfers | 38 | 26 | 13 | 10 | 27* |
| Total Forest Residents in All Community Hospitals in Gloucestershire | 479 | 423 | 340 | 348 | 379 |

*This is the year which the Vale stroke rehabilitation unit opened