

To: Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting: 22nd September, 2015

Notes of: Committee Administrator

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EYE CARE PROVISION

Background

1. At the June meeting of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel it was agreed that a review of eye care provision be included in the Panel's work programme for 2015/16.
2. The initial discussion that took place when agreeing to include the topic in the work programme was the availability of the 'Goldmann Field Analyser'.
3. It was thought that the nearest registered facility for this test was in Huddersfield.

Current position

4. Ophthalmology treats conditions and diseases of the eye. This includes the anatomy and physiology of the eye and can include surgery and the diagnosis and treatment of eye problems including injuries and medical disorders.
5. The Ophthalmology Department at Burnley General Hospital provides an extensive range of eye services for both adults and children. All sub-specialities of ophthalmology are covered at the Hospital including –
 - Retinal surgery
 - Medical ophthalmology
 - Diabetic eye disease
 - Glaucoma
 - Paediatric (children) ophthalmology
6. Goldmann applanation tonometry is used throughout East Lancashire, both within optometry and ophthalmology services. This is used to measure intraocular pressure and is a useful screening test.
7. However, the Goldmann Field Analyser is a specialist piece of equipment that is used for Neuro Ophthalmology.

8. This equipment is only available in specialised centres i.e. Huddersfield, and is not available through East Lancashire Hospitals Trust.
9. Presently there are no plans to purchase one for the department at Burnley General Hospital.

Integrated Eye Service

10. The Panel is advised that East Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are re-designing Ophthalmology as an integrated service.
11. The attached briefing paper from the East Lancashire CCG outlines the ophthalmology background and new service delivery. A copy of a presentation given to the locality forums is also submitted for information.
12. The integrated eye service is scheduled to go live on 5th October, 2015, therefore Members may wish to request an update on progress to a future meeting of the Panel.

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