

## Report to the Somerset Primary Care Trust on 18 November 2009

**Title: REVIEW OF GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER SERVICES AFFECTING RESIDENTS CURRENTLY SERVED BY THE ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL, BATH AND UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL BRISTOL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

**Enclosure  
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(SPCT 2009/140)**

### **Executive Summary:**

The enclosed paper has been prepared by NHS Bath and North East Somerset in conjunction with NHS South West and the Avon Somerset and Wiltshire Cancer Services (ASWCS) network. It recommends the future configuration of specialist surgical services for gynaecological cancer to ensure that women locally receive the best care.

The recommendation ensures that women currently served by the Royal United Hospital, Bath (RUH) and University Hospital Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (UHB) will receive a service that is compliant with the Improving Outcomes Guidance (IOG) as published by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence.

The IOG was published in 1999 and in 2004 the Cancer Action Team requested action plans from all cancer networks to demonstrate plans for delivering services that were IOG compliant. The ASWCS network carried out a review of gynaecological cancer services which recommended that two centres be established – one in Taunton and one in Bristol at UHB. The service in Taunton was implemented but the establishment of the service in Bristol did not proceed due to concerns expressed by the Bath and North East Somerset Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A further review by the network established that the standards of patients and public engagement had not been met. The network then recommended that a further review be conducted for the population of Avon and this was led by NHS Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES) on behalf of the six Primary care Trusts within the network including NHS Somerset and the network itself.

The review was led by the Director of Public Health for NHS BaNES and the steering group included service users, patient and carer representatives and clinicians. Unfortunately, there was no patient representative from Somerset as there are only a few numbers of patients who access this service from Somerset and although they were approached there was no interest in participating in the review.

Two options were considered as part of the review the specialist service to be provided at either the RUH or at UHB. Following the review the unanimous view of the Primary Care Trust representatives was that the best outcomes for patients would be for specialist gynaecological oncology service to be provided at UHB. The commissioning representation for NHS Somerset has been via the Directorate of Secondary Care Development.

In terms of the implications for the Somerset resident population currently served by both the RUH and UHB the impact is minimal. The activity projections for the Somerset population based on the workload analysis conducted as part of the review show that potentially 39 patients could be affected as part of the review. Of this 39, the current service provision would remain unchanged for 16 patients as they would be continued to be treated at their local centres due to the less complex nature of their disease. Of the remaining 23 patients 10 already attend UHB for their treatment leaving a projected 13 patients who would be affected by the specialist centre being based at UHB. It is worth noting that it is 13 miles between Bath and Bristol.

There is no cost impact for the service being based at UHB as the service is covered under national tariff.

### **Recommendation**

The Primary Care Trust is asked to **approve** the recommendations.