

NHS DORSET CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

GOVERNING BODY MEETING

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW - RESHAPING YOUR COUNCILS

Date of the meeting	21/09/2016
Author	M Wood, Director of Service Delivery
Sponsoring Board member	Dr F Watson, Chair of the CCG
Purpose of Report	To update the Governing Body on progress the Local Government Review in Dorset and to consider the CCG's response
Recommendation	The Governing Body is asked to consider and approve the suggested response.
Stakeholder Engagement	In this context the CCG is being consulted as a stakeholder.

Monitoring and Assurance Summary

This report links to the following Strategic Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services designed around people • Preventing ill health and reducing inequalities • Sustainable healthcare services • Care closer to home 		
	Yes [e.g. ✓]	Any action required?	
		Yes Detail in report	No
All three Domains of Quality (Safety, Quality, Patient Experience)	✓		✓
Board Assurance Framework Risk Register	✓		✓
Budgetary Impact	✓		✓
Legal/Regulatory	✓		✓
People/Staff	✓		✓
Financial/Value for Money/Sustainability	✓		✓
Information Management & Technology	✓		✓
Equality Impact Assessment	✓		✓
Freedom of Information	✓		✓
I confirm that I have considered the implications of this report on each of the matters above, as indicated	✓		

Initials: MW

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Governing Body to consider the CCG's response to 'Reshaping your councils' - a consultation on the future of local government in Dorset.

2. Report

- 2.1 The attached document (Appendix 1) 'Reshaping your councils – a better future for your community' describes the proposals.
- 2.2 The consultation will run between 30 August and 25 October 2016.
- 2.3 Two options have been proposed:
- Retaining all nine councils
 - Creating two unitary councils
- 2.4 Within the second option, there are three sub options:
- Large Conurbation / Small Dorset
 - Medium Conurbation / Medium Dorset
 - Small Conurbation / Large Dorset
- 2.5 The option of one large unitary council for the whole of Dorset is no longer being considered and the reasons for this are explained on page 10 of the consultation document.
- 2.6 If a decision is taken to move forward with the new councils, interim arrangements will be put in place from April 2018, with full implementation from April 2019.

Suggested CCG response

- 2.7 The proposed response is as follows:-

The CCG welcomes the proposal to restructure. The number of separate local authorities in Dorset at present makes partnership working complex. The unification of services such as housing and social care would create a significant opportunity to improve the health and well-being of the population.

The CCG therefore does not support the status quo option.

From a partnership point of view, it would be most helpful to relate to just one local authority and for local government to be run on a whole Dorset basis. This would place health, police, fire (which is now joint with Wiltshire) and local government all on a whole Dorset basis. It would also give helpful critical mass and strength, for the development of services. So this would be the CCG's preferred way forward.

However, the CCG recognises that these factors need to be balanced against others and that the councils have explained their reasons for not pursuing this option.

In the absence of a single unitary authority for the whole of Dorset, the CCG therefore supports the creation of two unitary authorities.

In so doing, the CCG would be looking to the councils to recognise that there are several functions which clearly benefit from a Dorset wide approach: for example commissioning acute hospital services and specialist mental health services.

In considering options 2a, 2b, and 2c, the CCG would urge the councils to fully consider that each of the two unitary councils has sufficient size and critical mass to be an effective partner. This would make option 2a the least attractive to the CCG.

In considering options 2a, 2b, and 2c, the CCG would urge the councils to demonstrate effective engagement and consultation with local communities. Local patients, carers and GP surgeries can make a useful contribution to this process.

In considering options 2a, 2b, and 2c, the CCG would urge the councils to fully consider natural communities and the CCGs current locality and cluster arrangements.

The CCG values its relationship with the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils as a means of our relating to and engaging with local communities. We are keen to continue to develop these relationships.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The Governing Body is asked to consider and **approve** the proposed response.

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Date : 31 August 2016

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Reshaping your councils – a better future for your community