



## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 1 MARCH 2017**

### **REPORT OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST**

#### **UPDATE ON EMERGENCY CARE AT LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY**

##### **Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on Emergency Care at Leicester Royal Infirmary and in particular the opening of the new Emergency Department which will open to the public on 26 April 2017.

##### **Background**

2. The Leicester Royal Infirmary is the only Emergency Department (ED) in a 25 mile radius of the city, meaning that its geography is unique in terms of there being no other local EDs, on the borders. The current department was designed to see 100,000 people a year; in 2016, 170,000 patients were seen through ED.
3. The sheer volume of patients now attending and being admitted to Leicester's Hospitals has increased significantly beyond that which was planned for originally.

##### **Opening of new Emergency Department**

4. On Monday 6 March Interserve Construction will officially hand over the keys to UHL for the new ED. As soon as the last remaining patients leave the current department on 26 April, UHL will begin to decommission the existing ED for Phase 2 of the Emergency Floor project which will be completed in Spring 2018. A full briefing document regarding the new Emergency Department is attached as an appendix to this report.

##### **The future**

5. UHL are clear that 4-hour performance will not miraculously improve overnight with the new ED. Whilst the department will be bigger, the emergency pathway will still face the same challenges of increasing attendances and delayed discharges out of hospital. The ED is part of a wider healthcare system and if there is no flow through the ED into other parts of the hospital, if there are delays in discharging patients that need health or social care packages and if the number of people attending cannot be reduced, UHL will continue to see the same problems.

**Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

6. None

**Officer to Contact**

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**List of Appendices**

Briefing about the new Emergency Department at the Leicester Royal Infirmary