

TRUST BOARD

Date of Meeting: 05/04/2011	Enclosure: 6
	Agenda Item No: 7.2
Title of Report: North Cumbria Clinical Strategy	
Aims: <p>The clinical strategy for north Cumbria is a clinically led plan for sustainable health services. The strategy is attached for endorsement by the Trust Board.</p>	
Summary: <p>In 2008 the NHS in north Cumbria agreed a plan to provide more health services closer to home thus allowing the Trust's hospitals to concentrate on providing more specialised care for acutely ill patients.</p> <p>Since then, improvements at the Cumberland Infirmary and the West Cumberland Hospital have seen significant falls in infection rates and other performance and quality improvements alongside the development of new community health services which provide treatment and care to more people, closer to where they live.</p> <p>Working together over the last six months, senior hospital clinicians and GPs have developed a clinical strategy which sets out how the rest of the changes agreed in the closer to home consultation will be delivered over the coming years.</p> <p>The strategy describes the opportunity to develop more specialised services locally for which people currently have to travel outside Cumbria to receive. It also includes a commitment to the new West Cumberland Hospital.</p> <p>Importantly, the strategy reaffirms the commitment of GPs and hospital clinicians to consultant-led maternity and to accident & emergency services at both hospitals which is a key component of the original closer to home plan.</p> <p>The clinical strategy will now be assessed by independent health economists to make sure it is sustainable and that it achieves the efficiencies the whole NHS is being asked to make over the next four years.</p> <p>It will also form part of the Full Business Case (FBC) for the new West Cumberland Hospital.</p>	

Specific implications for consideration (Financial/Workforce/Risk/Legal/Race Equality etc):	
Financial	Financial assessment by independent health economists to be carried out.
Workforce	Supports the ongoing development of the workforce strategy.
Other	Not applicable.
Recommendations:	
The Trust Board is asked to endorse the clinical strategy pending assessment by independent health economists.	
Document previously approved by:	
Not applicable. Report directly to Trust Board.	
Prepared by:	Presented by:
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