

CCG REPORT COVER SHEET

<b>Meeting Title:</b>	Primary Care Commissioning Committee in Public	<b>Date:</b> 12 March 2019								
<b>Report Title:</b>	Riverport Medical Practice – Northcote House Surgery Branch Closure Applications	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 3.2								
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Dr Mark Sanderson, Medical Director									
<b>Clinical Lead:</b>	Dr Mark Sanderson, Medical Director									
<b>Report Author:</b>	Emma O'Shea, Primary Care Project and Service Improvement Manager / Simon Tait, Primary Care Delegated Commissioning Support									
<b>Document Status:</b>	Final									
<b>Report Summary:</b>	Application received from Riverport Medical Practice to close the Northcote House Branch Surgery, St. Ives									
<b>Report Purpose:</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>For Assurance</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>For Decision</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>For Approval</b></td> <td>x</td> <td><b>For Recommendation</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>For Assurance</b>		<b>For Decision</b>		<b>For Approval</b>	x	<b>For Recommendation</b>		
<b>For Assurance</b>		<b>For Decision</b>		<b>For Approval</b>	x	<b>For Recommendation</b>				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	To approve the application									
<b>Link to Corporate Objective:</b>	<b>Objective 1 – Delivering the Improvement Plan for 208/19 and beyond;</b>									
	<b>Objective 2 – Delivering the Financial Plan for 2018-2019</b>									
	<b>Objective 3 – Delivering national must dos and service priorities set out in the National Planning Guidance</b>		x							
	<b>Objective 4 – Ensuring clear oversight of patient safety and quality</b>		x							
	<b>Objective 5 – Ensuring robust governance arrangements are in place to ensure the CCG delivers its statutory duties</b>		x							
	<b>Objective 6 – Ensuring delivery of robust engagement and communications plans to support delivery</b>									
<b>CAF (Strategic Risk) Reference</b>	<b>Description of Risk</b>	<b>Current Risk Score</b>								
CAF02	Failure to deliver service transformation due to pressures and challenges facing primary care, and insufficient or uncoordinated resources for commissioning primary care	12								
<b>NHSE CCG IAF Links</b>	<b>IAF 1 Domain 1 - Better Health</b>	x								
	<b>IAF 2 Domain 2 - Better Care</b>	x								
	<b>IAF 3 Domain 3 - Sustainability:</b>	x								
	<b>IAF 4 Domain 4 – Leadership</b>									
<b>Resource implications:</b>	No additional resources. Recurrent premises costs will be saved following the branch closure.									
<b>Chief Officer/ SRO Sign Off:</b>	Dr Mark Sanderson									
<b>Chief Finance Officer Sign Off: (if required)</b>	N/A									
<b>Legal implications including equality and diversity assessment:</b>	<i>Failure to deliver on the Statutory Duties under Delegated Commissioning</i>									
<b>Conflicts of Interest</b>	None									
<b>Report history:</b>	Discussed at PCOG 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2019									
<b>Next steps:</b>	PCCC Approval Required - 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2019									

**MEETING:** PRIMARY CARE COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3.2

**DATE:** 12 MARCH 2019

**TITLE:** RIVERPORT MEDICAL PRACTICE - NORTHCOTE HOUSE BRANCH SURGERY CLOSURE APPLICATION

**FROM:** EMMA O'SHEA, PRIMARY CARE TEAM (CCG)  
SIMON TAIT, PRIMARY CARE DELEGATED SUPPORT (NHSE)

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## 1 ISSUE

- 1.1 On the 3 December 2018, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (C&P CCG) received an application from Riverport Medical Practice, Constable Road, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire PE27 3ER (the Practice) seeking permission under the NHS (General Medical Services Contract) Regulations 2004, to close one of their branch sites, Northcote House Surgery, 8 Broad Leas, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 5PT.
- 1.2 Under C&P CCG's Delegated Commissioning Agreement, approval needs to be sought from the Primary Care Commissioning Committee (PCCC) to close a branch surgery.

## 2 KEY POINTS

- 2.1 Riverport Medical Practice is a newly formed Practice as of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, following a recent merger of the following practices: The Orchard Surgery, St. Ives, Parkhall Surgery, Somersham, Northcote House and Fenstanton Surgeries.
- 2.2 One of the branch sites, Northcote House Surgery, St. Ives is a converted residential property which requires substantial improvement in order to maintain the required standards. The other 3 premises are purpose built with modern facilities and sufficient capacity and car parking.
- 2.3 As part of the original merger application, the Practice signalled their intention to close the Northcote House Surgery premises and had notified patients of the proposal. As a result, the practice saw a loss of approximately 300 patients. The patients have opted to register at alternative practices.
- 2.4 The Practice is phasing out clinical services from the Northcote House Surgery premises and is currently providing limited clinical and predominantly administrative functions from the premises.
- 2.5 Patients are able to access the main site at the Orchard Surgery in St. Ives which has plenty of free parking and is served by local bus routes.

### **3 RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 Due diligence on the application has now been satisfactorily concluded and a decision is required to support the recommendation to:

3.2 **Approve** the Northcote House Surgery branch closure application of from Riverport Medical Practice.

### **4 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 The application states that the Northcote House Surgery premises require substantial improvement and investment in order to maintain the required premises standards and patients have access to General Medical Services from one of the alternative Riverport Practice sites which are in close proximity to Northcote House.

4.2 The CCG Primary Care Operational Group and the NHSE Local Office considers this request to be fair and reasonable and therefore is recommending to the Committee that they approve Northcote Branch Surgery closure.

### **5 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

5.1 The practice had previously requested to close the surgery as part of a merger application. Whilst the practice merger was approved it was felt there was insufficient patient engagement regarding the closure of Northcote House Surgery and this element of the application was not approved.

5.2 The practice has subsequently undertaken further Patient Engagement and have submitted a new application to close the branch surgery of Northcote House.

### **6 PATIENT AND OTHER STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

6.1 The Practice has sought advice from the Local Medical Committee, held discussions with Health Watch and Northcote House Patient Reference Group, and sent letters to its registered patient list. (Approx. 2,500 patients registered with Northcote House Surgery)

6.2 The Practice received a 20% response rate to the letters. Of the responses received, 87% responded positively to the closure and 13% responded negatively.

6.3 There have been newsletters for patients on display in all practice branches, as well as articles in local magazines and newspapers.

6.4 As part of the NHSE due diligence process, all relevant stakeholders have been notified of the proposed closure and feedback has been requested. This has been sent to all GP Practices within a five-mile radius of Northcote House Surgery, the CCG, LMC and Health Watch. Of the fourteen stakeholders contacted, seven have responded. Of which, none have raised an objection to the application.

6.5 The following feedback was received from HealthWatch:

*'Healthwatch Cambridgeshire can see no objection to this closure at this stage, as we are aware that there is other GP provision in St Ives.'*

*However, there may be local reasons why this closure may be difficult for some people and so we recommend a full consultation with patients on the list so their views can be ascertained and fully considered.'*

## **7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 The Practice has moved some of clinical services away from the current branch site and patients are accessing services from the other 3 sites in St. Ives, Somersham and Fenstanton. The impact to patients is minimal as much of the transition has already taken place. NHS England Local Area Team have not been made aware of any patient complaints in respect of this via the Patient Experience Team.

7.2 A point of concern has been raised as part of the due diligence process regarding the dispensing rights for the Northcote House Surgery branch, and whether the dispensing rights are still valid under the merger. On this point NHS England Local Area Team have sought advice from an external specialist Pharmacy Advisor at PCC who has confirmed the following:

As all 3 practices were formerly dispensing practices in their own right, provided that a doctor from each of the former practices works at the merged practice then the premises approvals, outline consents and historic rights for the three previous practices transferred to Riverport Medical Practice. This means that the merged practice, Riverport Medical Practice, can continue to dispense from:

- the former Orchard Surgery's premises to the areas that that practice had outline consent or historic rights for,
- the former Parkhall Surgery's premises to the areas that that practice had outline consent or historic rights for, and
- the former Northcote House premises in St Ives to the areas that that practice had outline consent or historic rights.

7.3 There is some overlap between the three practice areas and therefore it will be possible for Riverport Medical Practice to dispense to patients from one, two or three of its premises. However, there will also be areas which can only be dispensed to from one or two of the premises. For example, patients living north of Somersham only lived in the practice area covered by Parkhall Surgery. Therefore, Riverport can only dispense to those patients from the former Parkhall Surgery premises.

7.4 In order to determine the impact of the closure of the Northcote House branch, it has been necessary to map the three former practice areas, the parish boundaries and the areas that the three practices had historic rights or outline consent to dispense to. This is shown within **Appendix 1**.

7.5 As a result of closure of the Northcote House branch, there may be parts of Riverport's practice area for which the practice has historic rights or outline consent for but no longer has premises with premises approval for from which to dispense to that area or areas.

7.6 If the Northcote House branch closes, then patients who live in a controlled locality, more than 1.6km from a pharmacy, within an area that Northcote House had outline consent or historic rights for, and also within the areas that Orchard Surgery and Parkhall Surgery had outline consent or historic rights for then Riverport Medical

Practice can dispense to those patients from the former Orchard Surgery and Parkhall Surgery premises. However, Riverport Medical Practice will not be able to dispense to any patients who live outside areas for which Orchard Surgery or Parkhall Surgery premises hold outline consent or historic rights.

## **8 CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 The Practice has put forward a fair and reasonable case to close the branch surgery.
- 8.2 The Practice have recently employed another salaried GP, an Advanced Practitioner and Senior Practice Nurse to compliment the clinical team. Patients are now able to consult with both male and female clinical staff.
- 8.3 Having reviewed the due diligence reports, the Committee can be assured that patients are able to access appointments at all 3 sites, the main site being in St. Ives, which overall, provides more choice for patients.
- 8.4 The impact of the dispensing rights issue is likely to be minimal and should not affect the Committees decision to approve.

**Authors: Emma O'Shea, Primary Care Team (CCG)**  
**Simon Tait, Primary Care Delegated Support (NHSE)**  
**4 March 2019**

## **Appendices**

### **Appendix 1 – Map of dispensing areas**