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7 July 2020

Dear Stakeholder,

Re: Proposed relocation of Prosthetic Centre to Billericay – consultation outcome letter

I am writing further to my letter of 8 January 2020 which advised you that we were launching a 28 day consultation regarding the proposal to move the NHSE commissioned regional prosthetic service from the Long Term Conditions Centre (LTCC) in Havering to the Mayflower site in Billericay.

Further to that letter, in March 2020 NELFT responded to the NHSE guidance regarding the delivery of services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This involved suspending all but the most urgent prosthetic work and redeploying our staff to other buildings and services to support the front line response. As a result the staff that would have normally been based at the LTCC have been relocated to other buildings.

As noted in my original letter, there are major concerns about the fabric of the LTCC which means there is a lack of adherence to health and safety and infection control standards.

NELFT are now being asked to begin restoring business as usual services and whilst we have not yet received written confirmation that the prosthetics service will resume we expect this shortly.

As a Trust we have completed health and safety and COVID-19 risk assessments; the LTCC remains unfit for purpose and even more so given the requirements under the new COVID-19 secure building guidance.

As a responsible employer and NHS provider, we do not feel we can ethically ask staff or patients to return to a building we know is not fit for purpose.

As a result, during the COVID-19 response, our estate colleagues have continued to work on the Mayflower site and we are hopeful that this will be ready for occupation by the beginning of August 2020. Our plan and preference is to restart the service from that site from September 2020.

With regards to feedback from the consultation, we received only one comment via Healthwatch Havering. This was a concern that patients from Havering may have to travel further to receive their care.

Our response was as follows and this response would apply to any patient known to the service:

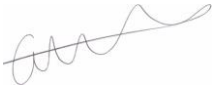
98% of patients who attend the prosthetic service arrive by NHS transport that is paid for by NELFT. This facility will continue into the future at the new site. For those patients who do attend the service by public transport and express any concerns they can be offered, free transport. We will also be offering some satellite clinics in Havering.

Chair: Joe Fielder
Chief executive: Professor Oliver Shanley OBE

As noted in my letter every service user has been consulted on regarding the move and to date no concerns have been expressed about the plans.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol White', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carol White
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