

14 November 2012

## **New Urgent Care Centre a step closer**

The new Urgent Care Centre, scheduled to open at the Loughborough Hospital in April 2013, is a step closer following the announcement by West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (WLCCG) that they have appointed the organisation that will run the service.

Central Nottinghamshire Clinical Services (CNCS) was confirmed as WLCCG's preferred provider following a decision by the Board on 31 October 2012.

Dr Nick Willmott, Chair of the Walk-in Centre Transition Board for WLCCG, said: "We're delighted to announce CNCS has been appointed to run the new urgent care service at Loughborough Hospital. We have conducted a thorough procurement process and are confident that the right organisation for the job has been selected. We are also pleased that GPs in the West Leicestershire CCG area support CNCS being named as the preferred provider and look forward to working with them to offer improved health services for the people of Loughborough and the surrounding area."

Anita Dixon, Chief Executive of CNCS, said: "This is an exciting opportunity for CNCS. We will be working in partnership with local GPs to ensure that the service we provide will be of the highest quality and standard to meet local patient needs."

The new Urgent Care Centre will offer observation bays to allow patients to be monitored at the centre, for example, following an asthma attack. Currently these patients need to be transferred to larger hospitals, which can be distressing.

With a range of clinicians already based at the hospital there is also the potential to access their expertise on site. For example, doctors who specialise in the care of older people currently run clinics at the hospital.

When the Urgent Care Centre opens next year WLCCG will be able to deliver improved care and an increased range of urgent care services locally.

The move will mean that patients who require urgent care but not acute A&E services can be treated at Loughborough Hospital and will not have to travel to Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Work has already started on site to improve the car parking and upgrade what was Outpatients Department 3 to accommodate the new service. More information about the relocation of the Walk-in Centre can be found at [www.westleicestershireccg.nhs.uk](http://www.westleicestershireccg.nhs.uk).

*ENDS*

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**Notes to editor:**

West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group was formed as part of the changes to the NHS under the Health and Social Care Act. Clinical Commissioning Groups were formerly known as GP consortia. The West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group represents 50 GP practices and covers Hinckley & Bosworth, North Charnwood, North West Leicestershire and South Charnwood.