

Board of Directors Cover Sheet

Subject:	Smoking and Car Parking Plan update	Date: 26 April 2018		
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Approved By:	Richard Mitchell, Chief Executive			
Presented By:	Richard Mitchell, Chief Executive			
Purpose				
To update on the Trust's plans to eradicate smoking on its hospital sites and provide adequate car parking and facilitate a range of alternative means by which people can access its services.			Decision	
			Approval	
			Assurance	X
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care to our patients	To support each other to do a great job	To inspire excellence	To get the most from our resources	To play a leading role in transforming health and care services
X	X	X	X	X
Overall Level of Assurance				
	Significant	Sufficient	Limited	None
			X	
Risks/Issues				
Financial				
Patient Impact				
Staff Impact				
Services				
Reputational				
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
N/A				
Executive Summary				
<p>Car parking and smoking are themes that consistently appear in complaints from both patients and staff.</p> <p>This paper is to provide an update to Board on the actions the Trust has already taken and plans to take in these areas. These actions are in keeping with the national drive to ensure NHS sites are smoke free, that we are promoting health and wellbeing in our staff and patients through smoking cessation programmes and that we are promoting green travel alternatives for patients and staff.</p>				

Car Parking and Smoking Plan Update

Background

Car parking and smoking are themes that consistently appear in complaints from both patients and staff.

This paper is to provide an update to Board on the actions the Trust has already taken, and plans to take in these areas. These actions are in keeping with the national drive to ensure NHS sites are smoke free, that we are promoting health and wellbeing in our staff and patients through smoking cessation programmes and that we are promoting green travel alternatives for patients and staff.

Smoking

Complaints around smoking tend to centre on people smoking outside main entrances to our sites where other people have to walk through to enter.

A Smoke Free group has been meeting bi-monthly for some years. It is chaired by the Trust's Head of Estates and Facilities and membership includes a member of the public, clinical representation, and representatives from Ashfield District Council, Smokefreelife Nottinghamshire, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Public Health, SFH Charity and our Human Resources department.

The group meets to discuss how to make our sites smoke free, and how to progress what we are doing through specific measures targeting both members of the public and staff. This includes patient and staff compliance with the smoking policy and how we promote alternatives to smoking such as Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT).

As a result we have already:

- Refreshed smoking messages and signage.
- Worked in collaboration with Ashfield District Council, which sends litter patrols at random times and on random days to challenge smokers.
- Emailed staff for their views on smoking and as a result all staff have been reminded of their responsibilities to colleagues and patients who smoke. We asked staff two questions: whether they thought it was acceptable for staff to smoke on site when they were working and whether they thought it was acceptable for patients to smoke on site. 80% of staff thought it was unacceptable for staff to smoke on site during work and 69% thought it was unacceptable for patients to smoke on site. Following on from this, a communication was sent to all colleagues to remind them there should be no smoking on any of our sites or in uniform.

Next steps being discussed include:

- Further updating smoke signage at the front of the King's Mill Hospital site to be in line with the national campaign.
- Discussions with pharmacy on how to make NRT available more quickly.

- Updating the smoking policy in relation to recent national guidance regarding e-cigarettes and vaping.
- Using national milestones to link campaigns into e.g. Stop Smoking Day in March and Stoptober.

Car parking

Car parking is managed on the Trust's behalf by Medirest. The Trust has been commended for aspects of its car parking including its commitment to creating safe and secure car parks across its hospitals through the award of a coveted Park Mark award. Under the Park Mark scheme, car parking facilities within the PFI perimeter have been fully risk assessed by the police as providing a high standard of cleanliness, effective security and car park staff visibility, CCTV cameras, signage and good lighting. We acknowledge we need to do some work on the Northfield and former Dukeries facilities to reach these standards. Each year the car parking facilities at Newark, Mansfield Community and King's Mill hospitals will undergo a rigorous risk assessment to ensure that the high standards of the Park Mark award are maintained.

Despite this we recognise that there are complaints around car parking which tend to centre around the ability to easily find a car parking space on our sites.

We are aware that we are now seeing increasing pressures particularly on our staff parking facilities over the site at King's Mill and also at Newark. There are a number of contributing factors that may be leading to this impact:

- Net increases in the number of substantive staff employed by the Trust, with car parking permits, which is adding pressure in particular to the designated staff spaces on site (in the past temporary staff have tended to use visitor spaces).
- Nursing staff now generally working long day shifts, meaning that staff generally arrive during short time windows, fill the majority of spaces and then leave some twelve hours later, meaning that turnover of spaces is reduced.
- Additional medical students on site
- Additional school of nursing students on site.
- Additional volunteers on site.

This winter there were issues with car parking primarily because when it gets darker and the weather is worse, public and staff are understandably more reluctant to walk/cycle in or take public transport and instead prefer to drive. This extra demand for spaces has led to waits to enter the car parks and find a space. Works on the King's Mill site also meant that we temporarily lost 30 car park spaces from Car Park 10. This has now been remedied and additional spaces provided in Car Park 11 although this will have an impact on the revenue collected from patients and visitors.

On top of this there were some issues related to gritting and snow/ice removal when the first cold snap of winter occurred which meant some spaces became inaccessible.

The issues are considered by the Car Park User Group, which meets quarterly and has been established for a number of years. It is chaired by the Security Management Specialist and has representatives from staff side unions, human resources, health and safety and CNH.

In response to these issues a number of actions have been instigated namely:

- Changed gritting/snow removal contractor.
- Asked staff for their opinions on different options for travelling to work (the results are currently being analysed).
- Opened 40 extra car parking spaces in January 2018.
- Opened a further 18 extra spaces in February 2018.
- Appointed a lead manager for environment and sustainability. One of her key roles is to look at promoting green travel, car sharing, cycle to work schemes etc which should all help to reduce the number of cars coming onto our sites.

Next steps will be:

- Reviewing the current Car Parking policy which is due for renewal in September 2018.
- Reviewing all current onsite areas to see how we can increase the number of spaces within our current footprint.
- Investigating travel flow options to see if changing them might enable an increase in the number of spaces.
- Investigating potential park and ride options.
- Considering how we flex car parking in line with key Trust events that attract more people onto site (e.g. training events) and winter planning when we know there may be an overall increase in demand, but a different distribution between patients, visitors and staff.