

Appendix 7.4:

Current and Expected Challenges to the Transformation Programme identified through public and patient feedback

From the outset, the Transformation Programme has been committed to ensuring that there is strong patient and public engagement and that the proposals for change are developed in partnership with the local community and stakeholders. Section 7.2 of the Pre-Consultation Business Case provides a high level summary of this work.

Feedback from patients and the public has been used to shape the proposals and has also been used to identify the potential challenges that the programme may face. This has allowed the Transformation Programme to make plans to address these.

Current challenges include:

- Community / lobby group in Wantage associated with Wantage Community Hospital following the temporary emergency closure of many of the services including inpatients and maternity due to legionella in the water system. The local district councillors and MP Ed Vaizey have been involved in campaigning to keep the hospital open and a recent article in the Oxford Mail quoted Ed Vaizey as saying that local people will pay the price for [health consultation delay](#). Mitigating action includes regular Chief Executive Briefings to local MP on transformation, attendance at public meeting to discuss the temporary emergency closure and OCCG held one of its roadshows in Wantage.
- Keep the Horton General Campaign Group are vigorously opposed to the temporary emergency closure of the obstetric unit at the Horton General Hospital and have launched a Judicial Review into the closure. The options being developed for the acute services include the removal of an obstetric led unit and 24/7 inpatient paediatric services which the Horton are also opposed to. The campaign group have launched a letter campaign aimed at the OUHFT and the CCG. We have received and responded to over 200 letters from the community instigated by the campaign group. A template letter is available, for the local community to use, on the 'Keep the Horton General' website: <http://www.keepthehortongeneral.org/> Many of the letters include personal patient experiences of the Horton General Hospital and the good care received at the hospital. The letters outline opposition to the removal of the consultant-led maternity unit due to safety reasons; concerns about the growing population of the surrounding areas; concerns about public transport availability and the length of travel time from Banbury and the surrounding area to Oxford; inability for loved ones / carers to frequently visit patient from Banbury in Oxford due to the above and concern that hospitals based in Oxford will be able to cope with the increased activity. The local paper, the *Banbury Guardian*, and the local MP Victoria Prentis are all supporting the campaign. Mitigating action includes regular attendance at the Community Partnership Network (a public stakeholder group that meets in public and focuses on health in the North of the county); regular Chief Executive meetings with the local MP; trying to establish a good

working relationship with the *Banbury Guardian*; and attempting to meet with the campaign group.