

Message received by email 3/9/19

I'd like to make the following submission regarding the Future Fit proposals. I'll use the format as set out in your online survey.

View on proposed model of hospital care

Both models will have an impact, as both involve increased travel times in an area poorly served by public transport. Both models also have a detrimental effect on people who need access to emergency care, since people may well call an ambulance in order to access the Urgent Care Centres if public transport is not available, absorbing resources which should be focused on emergencies.

Views on Option 1

The Parish Meeting does not believe that option 1 (Centralising emergency care at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and planned care at Princess Royal Hospital will meet the needs of the residents of |Hopton Castle.

Centralising "planned care" at one hospital rather than investing in rural hubs throughout the counties not acceptable, given the demographics of Shropshire and Powis. It is likely to increase the incidence of missed appointments, due to the very long distances that will be involved for South Shropshire and Powis residents, particularly id reliant on public transport.

View on Option 2

For the same reasons given concerning Option 1 the Parish Meeting disagrees that this option meets the needs of our residents.

Other factors that should be taken into account

The Parish Meeting finds it incomprehensible that these proposals have been developed without the views of the West Midlands Ambulance Service. It appears that it is only now, after concerns raised at the public consultation meetings that a Travel and Transport group has been established to consider the impact on the Ambulance Service and assess what public and community transport option are. It is inevitable that more resources are going to be required if we are to avoid a serious and negative impact on the Ambulance Service and find means of meeting the public's transport needs.

If either option is implemented then one means of reducing the negative impact on patients and their families would be to introduce specific park and ride facilities for access to Prince Royal Hospital in particular.

Other comments

These proposals should primarily be about meeting the health needs of our communities - it seems that financial considerations are virtually the sole criteria being used to shape both options - this is not acceptable.

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