



Key Messages from the November 2019 Head and Neck Steering Group meeting

The preferred clinical options for delivering Head and Neck services

At the October Steering Group meeting it was agreed that options 2a and 2bii (detailed below) would be moved onto the next stage and worked up in more detail relating to workforce, capacity and costs to provide a better understanding around what each option involves.

Option #	Providers #	Hub (s)	Inpatients			
			H&N Ca (ENT & OMF) Elective	H&N Ca (ENT & OMF) Non-Elective	OMF Elective	OMF Non-Elective
2a	1	Hub site 1	●	●	●	●
2bii	1	Hub site 1	●	●	●	●
		Hub site 2	●	●	●	●

● Service is delivered at hub site ● Service is not delivered at hub site

These options were discussed at the Care Professionals Board on Friday 1 November, and it was recommended that option 2bii should be discarded on the basis that:

- There was no compelling reason to split services across two sites
- 2a was the clear highest scoring option from the scoring exercise
- 2a is in keeping with the national strategic direction to centralise specialist inpatient services
- 2a is favoured by the Deanery in terms of training

There was not full attendance at Steering Group; however, those present agreed to support the recommendation and discard option 2bii. Absent Steering Group members are being consulted on whether they support this approach or not and have been asked to share their views by 15 November.

Creating a Head and Neck Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) Network meeting

The work to create a Lancashire and South Cumbria Head and Neck MDT Network meeting continues. The actions required to progress this have been identified. Service Improvement Facilitators at East Lancashire and Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trusts have observed both existing MDT meetings and are working together to create a new standard operating procedure and streamlined agenda for a network MDT meeting. The original target of having the Network MDT meeting in place by December 2019 needs to be extended to allow for the amendment of job plans, a definite date for the launch will be agreed at the next working group meeting on 12 November.

Future meetings

The next meeting of the Head and Neck Steering Group is due to take place on Tuesday 3 December 2019. If you have any questions about this work, please contact healthier.lsc@nhs.net

