

SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: REPORT TO THE TRUST EXECUTIVE GROUP

Subject:	Presentation on Car Parking and Transport provided by Kevin O'Regan, Hotel Services Director, 19 May 2016
Supporting Director:	Neil Riley
Authors:	John Warner (Public Governor) and Kath Parker (Patient Governor)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To provide feedback on the presentation for the benefit of the Council of Governors and a response to Governors' questions.

KEY POINTS:

- A challenging subject for the Trust and one which engages public attention.
- Opportunities are taken to improve and increase parking facilities and availability whenever possible with up to 160 new spaces in the pipeline plus the possibility of the use of 100 spaces in the new UoS multi-story car park at Durham Road.
- Car parking charges to be introduced at Weston Park Hospital.
- Tendering for new contracts to manage car parks currently underway.
- Annual income received from car parking in the region £3.5m

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATION(S):

Governors' comments	Directorate Response	TEG Response
1. Can the Board do anything to discourage the misuse by staff of disabled spaces and illegal parking in no parking zones?	1. Significant work continues to monitor and manage car park provision successfully but sadly this will continue to be a difficult process when supply outstrips demand. Whilst the Trust continues to invest in additional car parking spaces we are constrained by availability of land, planning permission and costs.	TEG supports the Directorate response.

**Presentation for Governors on Car Parking and Transport
Provided by Kevin O'Regan, Hotel Services Director
19 May 2016**

Governors Attending:

Sally Craig
Anne Eckford
Ian Merriman
Lewis Noble
Kath Parker
Hetta Phillips
Graham Thompson
John Warner

Staff Present:

Kevin O'Regan

Kevin O'Regan opened the meeting by highlighting some of the current issues relating to car parking.

Car parking at Weston Park Hospital continues to be of particular concern. It is currently free and oversubscribed. Car parking staff use diplomacy to manage the car park and control the situation as satisfactorily as possible, however with limited access to the car park queues inevitably build up which leads to congestion during much of the day outside the hospital on Whitham Road. It is intended to introduce charging for the car park in the near future which may serve to relieve some of the pressures. There is also a newly built multi-story car park nearby at Durham Road managed by Q Parks and owned by the University of Sheffield. Kevin explained that the Trust has been offered 100 places in this car park and, although final agreement has yet to be reached, these spaces will provide much needed additional parking for users of Weston Park Hospital. A review of permits is also underway at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital with some staff transferring to Durham Road car park. Unfortunately the costs are expensive but it does facilitate greater flexibility.

The Trust has earmarked £800,000 of capital expenditure in 2016/17 for the creation of about 160 additional parking spaces with 22 to 29 at Jessops and about 133 on three sites at NGH. The final number is dependent on planning permissions, size of spaces, disabled spaces and some other variables, eg design.

The contracts for managing the Trust's car parks are presently out to tender. The current management companies (Xcel and ISS) and Indigo have been shortlisted and tender evaluation is underway.

The increasing demands on car parking facilities has led to a decision to restrict the number of staff allocated car park space even though such a move is almost certain to result in adverse reactions amongst staff. The timing of any implementation is yet to be decided but it will probably be in the very near future.

The income from car parks is in the region of £3.5m annually which is almost entirely spent on car park staff, maintenance costs and investment on patient care. Any Directorate surplus (£800,000 in 2014/15) is added to the Trust's balance sheet. More details are available in the Trust's published annual statement.

Kevin also stressed that wherever possible the Trust promotes alternative means of transport to staff and the public, e.g. car sharing, cycle schemes, (cycle parks are provided on all sites) and public transport including H1 service. The Trust does not have any negotiating powers with transport providers but attempts to influence policy whenever possible. Kevin indicated that the £1 charge levied by some bus companies with a 9.30 am start/concessionary charge for pensioners was determined by appropriate companies

In answer to questions Kevin explained that free or reduced parking is available to patients and families with long term (more than three weeks) need to visit hospital regularly. Staff offer the concessions to patients and families as the need is evidenced. He explained that although consideration has been given to more overt publicity it has been concluded that to do so could lead to abuse of the system.

Last year across all the Trust's car parking spaces (approximately 3800), used by in excess of two million visitors, around 1500 £60 parking tickets were issued. This number could have been much higher if the car parking management companies were allowed a free hand but the Trust's policy is to issue tickets in only the most serious cases and they do cancel tickets if presented with sound arguments to do so. Kevin cited instances recently when people were parking on double yellow lines outside Jessops, many of whom were subsequently found to be Trust staff.

Misuse of disabled spaces is policed as a high priority, again Trust staff are often found to be culpable.

The division of car parking spaces between staff and public is about 60/40 in favour of staff hence the present review.

John Warner and Kath Parker