



COMMUNITY HOSPITALS ASSOCIATION

# Community Hospitals The National Picture

Presentation at a Public Meeting  
For Crediton Town Council



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# Content of My Presentation



COMMUNITY HOSPITALS ASSOCIATION

- 1. Principles to Underpin the Discussion**
- 2. Some Information on the Community Hospitals Association**
- 3. Exploring the Tradition of Community Hospitals and Community Involvement**
- 4. Examples of Communities and their Community Hospitals**
- 5. Evidence from Research on the Value of Community Hospitals**
- 6. Suggestions for Discussion**

# Discussion - Community Voice

**“People have a right and a duty to participate individually and collectively in the planning and implementation of their health care.”**



*World Health Organisation  
Alma Ata 1978*

# Experiences and Outcomes of Patients/ Clients

**“...Nothing is more likely to focus the mind about the impact of decisions on patients than to listen to patients’ experiences”**

**Francis Report 2013**





COMMUNITY HOSPITALS ASSOCIATION

# Community Hospitals Association

- **Promoting Community Hospitals for over 45 years**
- **There are nearly 300 community hospitals in England (30+ do not have beds)**
- **Hold Conferences and send out newsletters**
- **Offer advice and support**
- **Encourage research and evaluation**
- **Giving recognition for “*Innovations and Best Practice*” through a CHA Award Programme for 15 years**
- **Offer Membership to Community Hospitals and Leagues of Friends**

# History of Community Hospitals



**1859 1 Cottage Hospital in Cranleigh**  
**1890 240 Cottage Hospitals**

- ✓ **Local and Accessible Care to avoid long journeys to larger hospitals**
- ✓ **A Safe and Clean Environment**
- ✓ **A Facility where family doctors could work with nurses and have support from hospital doctors**

Care Closer to Home

Patient Safety

Integrated Care

# Characteristics

- ✧ **Small hospital**
- ✧ **Rural and remote locations**
- ✧ **Serving a Defined Population**
- ✧ **Clinically led by community-based staff**
- ✧ **Provides a variety of services**
- ✧ **Supported by local people**



# Example Community Hospital Services & Facilities

## In-Patient Wards

Intermediate Care  
End of Life Care  
Maternity

## Minor Injuries Unit

## Rehabilitation

Physiotherapy  
OT etc

## Clinics

Consultant clinics  
Community clinics

## Day Treatment

Surgery  
Renal Dialysis

## Diagnostics

Xray & Ultra Sound

## Facilities

Meeting rooms for community groups and voluntary agencies  
Base for community teams



# Community Engagement



# Community Value

**What does the community do for their community hospital?**

**What does the community hospital do for the community?**



*Tewkesbury Hospital*

**Examples of  
Communities and  
Their Community Hospitals**

# Community Collaboration

- **Cumbria Proposals to close community hospitals in 2006**
- **9 Leagues of Friends Joined Together**
- **Collective Effort of Campaigning and Making a Case**
- **Now Cumbria developing and reinvesting in community hospitals**



*Ruth Lancaster James Hospital, Alston*

# Community Control

**Announcement of Closure  
Staff Shortages**



**May 2014**

**£1m Boost Announced For Millom Hospital  
Millom Vanguard Site for Department of Health**

**March 2015**

**Millom Community GP Recruitment Video**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rky8n7Co5U>

# Community-Led Service

- ❖ **League of Friends identified a need – high number of fractured hips**
- ❖ **Consulted professionals about prevention**
- ❖ **Identified requirement and provided funding for DEXA Scanner**
- ❖ **Promoted The Service**
- ❖ **Worked in Partnership**
- ❖ **Ensured an Evaluation**



*Dexa Scanner*

# Community Resilience



*Nairn Town and County Hospital*

**19 beds**  
**Minor Injuries Unit**  
**Clinics**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Day Hospital**  
**Dental service**



# Community Partnership



*Ledbury Community Health and Care Centre*

**24 NHS community beds**  
**36 nursing home beds**  
**Outpatient Clinics**  
**Rehabilitation**  
**GP practice**  
**Dentist**  
**Market Cafe**



# Community Venture

A Community-owned hospital

Clinics

Kidney Dialysis Unit

Dentist

Physiotherapy



*Wells-next-the-sea, Norfolk*

# Community Ownership



**Local people challenged closure plans for Rye hospital**

**Formed a community charity and raised money**

**Worked in Partnership with Authorities**



**Co-produced a Development Plan**

**Rebuilt hospital plus GP surgery and extra-care housing**

**Celebrating 20 years of local ownership**



# Community Support

Inpatient beds under threat



League of Friends Invest in Ward

Day Service to be closed  
3 days a week



League of Friends  
now run the service



*League of Friends Shop*



*Crowborough Hospital  
East Sussex*

**Research Evidence  
on  
Community Hospitals**

# Patient Outcomes

***“Care in Community Hospitals  
was consistent with greater  
independence”***

**"Effects of locality based community hospital care on independence in older people needing rehabilitation: randomised controlled trial."**

Green et al. 2005 Br Med J 331(7512):317-322.

# Cost Effectiveness

***“The Community Hospital is cost effective for post-acute in-patient rehabilitation”***

**"Post-acute care for older people in community hospitals--a cost-effectiveness analysis within a multi-centre randomised controlled trial." O'Reilly et al 2008 Age and Ageing 37(5):513-520.**

# Patient Views

***“The Community Hospital service was welcomed by patients”***

**"The patient experience of community hospital - the process of care as a determinant of satisfaction."**

Small et al. 2007 Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice: 95-101.

## Intermediate Care - Norway

***“Intermediate care is highly effective”***

**"Intermediate care at a community hospital as an alternative to prolonged general hospital care for elderly patients: a randomised controlled trial." Garasen et al. 2007 BMC Public Health 7:68.**



# GP Hospital Impact - Netherlands

*“The community hospital is a valuable alternative to care at home, nursing home or general hospital, particularly for older people who have a poor quality of life related to their health conditions and who require short term care”*

**“The first general practitioner hospital in the Netherlands: towards a new form of integrated care?”**  
Charante et al 2004 Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care 22(1) March 2004:38-43

# Role of Community Hospitals in Italy

*“Community hospitals could play a relevant role as providers of intermediate care at a relatively low cost.”*

# National Picture is Mixed

Strategy	Examples
New and Redeveloped Community Hospitals	South Bristol Community Hospital Altrincham Community Hospital Cockermouth Community Hospital
Investment & Efficiency	Gloucestershire Cumbria Oxfordshire Derbyshire
Reductions or Closures – Service Transformation to New Models	Staffordshire (ie. Longton Hospital) Surrey (i.e. Leatherhead, Molesley) Suffolk (i.e. Southwold, Halesworth) Devon (i.e. Axminster, Torrington)

## **Some Context for Crediton Hospital**

- **Devon Strategy is that not all Community Hospitals will have inpatient beds**
- **Nursing staff shortages prompting centralisation of inpatient services**
- **Financial savings required**
- **Ideas for “Community Hospitals without beds” to develop as a focus for community health and care resources**

# Possible Discussion Areas

## Policy

### Care Closer to Home & NHS Five Year Forward View

Does this mean more capacity within local communities to save people travelling to the DGH? So what is the role and potential of local community hospitals?

## Practice

### Community Engagement

How can all concerned work together to use all resources, skills, talent and ideas to create the best solution for a local community?

## Research

### Evidence-based Decisions

How to use research findings to inform decisions on healthcare provision?

**Thank You**

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