

East Staffordshire CCG Briefing

March 2017

Welcome to our quarterly briefing which we hope will give you an update on some of the issues that we are working on at the moment.

In this briefing we cover:

- Our Focus
- Together We're Better / Sustainability and Transformation Plan
- Our Future Local GP Services
- Digital Developments
- Improving Lives
- Staffordshire County Council Expenditure Reductions
- For Most It's Close
- Starting Young

Our Focus

We succeeded in having all of our service contracts for the next two years in place before Christmas, in line with NHS England's deadline and early in 2017 we submitted our 'Operational Plan' to NHS England. This is a formal submission, setting out how we will meet the challenges set for the NHS nationally for 2017/18 and also setting out our own main priorities for the coming year.

Locally, we will be focusing on:

- Cancer
- Emergency Care
- Long term conditions / Frail, elderly people
- Mental Health
- Planned (non-emergency) Care and
- Primary Care (GPs)

We will bring you more information about what we are doing in these areas and how the public, patients and carers can be involved in shaping services over the coming months.



We are continuing to work closely with our colleagues in the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and all of the areas we are focusing on fall within STP workstreams across the county.

We will also be continuing to work closely with Southern Derbyshire CCG to support and enable Burton and Derby Hospitals to collaborate and gain the quality, performance and financial benefits available through consistent and streamlined pathways of care.

Together We're Better / Sustainability and Transformation Plan

Work on the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Sustainability & Transformation Plan (STP) continues with our health and care partners from across the county. The main focus of effort is to support patients in their homes and local communities, improve prevention, increase self-management and reduce the number of admissions into hospital.

Ten Conversation events, organised by Healthwatch Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent were held at the end of last year, to share information and engage the public in the development of ideas. Our local event was on 7th December in Burton Town Hall. Penny Harris, the STP Programme Director, together with CCG representatives, Charles Pidsley (Chair) and Tony Bruce (Accountable Officer) and other STP partners spoke about the STP and answered questions and Healthwatch collated feedback from the public.

The draft Staffordshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan was then published on 15th December. The full document and also a summary version can be found on the Together We're Better website: <http://www.twbstaffsandstoke.org.uk>. The report contains outline ideas which will be shaped and developed by doctors, nurses, managers and community representatives over the coming months.

Members of the public have been invited to become Ambassadors for the STP – the idea being that Ambassadors will be able to get to a wider cross section of people across the county and talk about the STP and its aims, and gather views which they can then feedback to the STP team. Charles Pidsley and Tony Bruce invited local Ambassadors to meet with them in January, to explain the work the CCG is doing locally and how that fits in with the STP ideas, and to give the Ambassadors the opportunity to raise any questions. The Ambassadors were keen to have similar meetings in the future.

The STP is now looking for local people to be part of reference groups for its main areas of work: Urgent Care, Planned Care, Enhanced Primary and Community Care, Prevention, and Digital. More information is available from Healthwatch Staffordshire: <http://healthwatchstaffordshire.co.uk/> or call 0800 051 8371.



Our future Local GP Services

Our work with local GPs Practices to develop the Local Delivery Plan for sustainable primary care medical services continues to progress well.

The CCG has been considering whether it should apply to become a level 3 Delegated Commissioner of Primary Care medical services from 1 April 2017. We have now completed our research into the benefits and issues and have talked with our GPs about what this would mean. Once a final decision is made, which will be before the end of March, we will issue an update.

Digital Developments

Over the past year, we have been working with clinical and Information Technology colleagues from health and social care organisations across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to develop a 'Digital Road Map' for the county.

This is now published (you can find it on The Together We're Better website <http://www.twbstaffsandstoke.org.uk/index.php/document-library/9-staffordshire-and-stoke-on-trent-ldr/file>)

This report sets out how digital systems will be developed over the coming years to benefit patient care by improving the flow of information between organisations and between organisations and patients. For example, so that GPs get an electronic discharge letter from a hospital as soon as a patient is discharged and so that patients can see their own records online.

In East Staffs, we have long been convinced that making use of digital systems will benefit doctors, nurses and hospital staff, as it will save time and give them quicker access to accurate information, and so improve the care patients receive. We have been working with our GP practices on IT projects for several years and we are now supporting them so that they can make maximum use of online clinical systems, developing flexible IT solutions to support mobile working and taking full advantage of the on-line tools and software which are integrated into the clinical system.

Amongst our current projects in East Staffs, we are supporting our GPs and Burton Hospital to increase the use of online booking for hospital appointments and to give GPs easier access to advice from hospital consultants, rather than having to refer people to outpatients appointments when they may not need one. Virgin Care, as part of the Improving Lives contract, are working on implementing an integrated patient record, and this will give the appropriate hospital staff, community nurses and GPs access to an integrated record of care for individual patients.



Improving Lives

Virgin Care continues to make progress in implementing their two year operational plan for the transformation of local services, following the transfer of services in May 2016.

The Urgent Care service has been enhanced by the relocation of GP Out of Hours to the Queen's Hospital site, a streaming service has been introduced to the A&E department to signpost patients to the most appropriate service and a Rapid Response team is available to enable patients to go home from A&E where clinically appropriate and to be discharged promptly from hospital when appropriate.

Staffordshire County Council Expenditure Reductions

It is our responsibility to make sure we use the money we are allocated, to gain the maximum benefit for the health and wellbeing of the people of East Staffordshire. This includes maximising the positive impact on the health of local people of the funding which the CCG transfers to Staffordshire County Council (SCC).

The CCG's funding to SCC happens in three ways:

- 1 Funding from the Staffordshire CCGs to SCC for 2016/17 for the Better Care Fund allocation (s256).
- 2 There are other services that are not funded as part of the Better Care Fund, but for which the CCG transfers funding to the SCC, and which SCC then commissions on behalf of the CCGs.
- 3 There are other services that SCC is responsible for commissioning that SCC has decided to reduce.

We are working our colleagues from SCC and the other four Staffordshire CCGs to understand the impact of the changes and reductions in public health, health and care services that are being made to address SCC's financial gap, and we will be working to minimise the impact of any reductions and cuts.

For Most It's Close

We are continuing our 'For Most It's Close' campaign to remind East Staffordshire residents that there are often occasions when pharmacists can help them with advice and care, rather than needing a visit to their GPs or A&E. This message has gone out via social media and car park ticket advertising, as well as through leaflet distribution.

Please help us to publicise this messaging and help us reduce unnecessary visits to GPs and A&E by re-tweeting our messages or by distributing our leaflets. For a supply of leaflets, please contact Deborah Neal (Contact details at the end of this newsletter.)

Starting Young

We have contributed to funding the development of a school pack, which contains a series of lessons for children aged from 5 to 11, to help educate them in healthy eating and keeping well and active and includes a range of health messages including using the appropriate health services and the correct use of antibiotics. We are the first CCG in Staffordshire to invest in this approach. The school pack has now been made available to all schools in East Staffordshire via the County Council Education Team and we are hoping to see schools take this up over the coming months.

Our next quarterly CCG briefing will be issued in June 2017. If you have any comments or if there are any items you would like to see covered, please contact deborah.neal1@nhs.net or call 07710 916 043.

