

Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee

Healthy Weston Programme Update	
Presented by, including organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Julia Ross, Chief Executive, BNSSG CCG
Date of meeting	23 October 2017
Report for information	

1. Purpose of this Paper

To brief Joint HOSC on the programme known as “Healthy Weston - joining up services for better care in the Weston area”.

2. Executive Summary

The Healthy Weston Programme is North Somerset CCG’s new vision to improve health and care services in Weston-super-Mare, Worle, Winscombe and the surrounding villages of the south rurals.

Our vision places greater emphasis on organising and delivering services that help to keep people healthy and out of hospital, and when they do need care, providing a more seamless experience across the range of health and care services with a focus on being treated in the community and closer to home.

It sets out a proposed way forward for organising and delivering health and care services across the local health and care system in a way that better meets the needs of local people, and ensures services meet national quality standards and are affordable within available funding for the long-term.

This is in response to the increasing demand and changing needs that come with an ageing and growing population, as well as the need to address challenges in attracting, recruiting and retaining specialist staff to run services, alongside significant financial pressures.

3. Healthy Weston

3.1 Introduction

A Commissioning Context document (final draft available at https://www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk/media/medialibrary/2017/09/draft_healthy_weston_context.pdf) has been developed in North Somerset that sets out a clear vision and direction of travel for local services. This work is

focused on the population living in and around Weston-super-Mare. In the Weston locality there are a number of recognised clinical and financial sustainability issues at the acute provider, and amongst some local primary care services.

As part of transforming services, the CCG want Weston General Hospital to play a vital role in organising and delivering services differently by putting it at the heart of a more integrated and proactive local health care system that will better meet the specific needs of local people. This means treating more people in the community and helping them to stay in their own homes for as long as possible before needing hospital treatment, and where hospital treatment is required, helping them to return home as soon as possible.

This is not about starting again, or duplicating work that is already underway, but rather about translating design into delivery. This is to enable a step change in the way we organise and provide local services. The context document has been developed through an intense period of stakeholder engagement and involvement over the past three months. The work has identified three overarching priorities of enabling primary care to deliver at scale and provide system leadership, integrated community services and a resolution to the challenges in acute provision.

3.2 Temporary overnight closure of Weston A&E

The long-term future of urgent and emergency care services at Weston is a crucial strand of the work. The CCG will continue to gather views from health and care partners, staff, stakeholders and the public on how sustainable services could be delivered. The CCG and WHAT's (the organisation that runs Weston General Hospital) shared goal is to make sure local people can access safe, high quality, sustainable urgent and emergency care services from wherever they live in North Somerset, as close to home as possible.

In the meantime, the temporary closure of overnight A&E services remains in place until safe and sustainable staffing levels can be achieved throughout the night. Whilst WAHT are making progress with recruiting permanent medical staff, and continue to do all they can to recruit the numbers needed, we acknowledge that it will continue to be difficult and the A&E department will not reopen overnight in the short-term. During the temporary overnight closure, patients continue to receive safe care at an alternative hospital and the NHS continues to cope well.

3.3 Healthy Weston Next steps

The BNSSG Governing Body approved the new vision 'Healthy Weston: joining up services for better care in the Weston area' at the BNSSG Governing Body (in common) meeting on 3 October 2017.

A final version was published on the CCG website on 11 October 2017 and will be accompanied by a public facing summary of the document.

At the time of writing this report, it is planned that the next phase of talking and listening to views of staff, stakeholders, patients and the public will commence on 18 October 2017.

4. Risk assessment

A full programme of work to develop the vision of the Commissioning Context which will include a risk register for each workstream.

5. Public sector equalities duties

An Equality Impact Assessment will be a key part of the next phase of work to develop detailed proposals for service reform and implementation of a new, integrated care system. The local population of the Weston area has areas of high deprivation. The CCG know from previous engagement work that additional travel for patients and visitors resulting from any rationalisation of services will be a concern. This will have to be a balanced against the clinical and financial viability of services. Also, by bringing routine and preventive care closer to home, there is the opportunity to better serve the local population's overall needs.

6. Legal and finance implications

The CCG has a statutory duty to involve patients, carers and the public in the development of commissioning plans to change and develop local health services. This is detailed in Section 14z2 of the health and Social Care Act 2012. The right of patients to be involved in the planning and development of health services is further set out in the NHS constitution.

The commissioning context document asserts that whatever is done, will happen within a clearly defined financial envelope so it is affordable and sustainable. The financial section indicates the level of affordable service expenditure for North Somerset which is compatible with longer term financial resilience, moving the CCG from an underlying deficit to a 1% surplus. The document then goes on to explore the idea of a provider alliance with a capitated budget model.

8. Recommendations

That Joint HOSC notes the contents of this paper.