

NHS Cumbria CCG Governing Body	Agenda Item
1 April 2015	5

Chair & Chief Officers Report

Purpose of Report:

To provide members of the Governing Body with a brief update of key issues and plans that NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group is engaged in.

Considerations:

Better Care Together to Lead NHS into New Era of Patient Care

Better Care Together has been chosen by NHS England to take a national lead on transforming care for patients. The programme was one of 29 from across England who put forward their innovative ideas on how they want to redesign care in their areas.

Known as Vanguard the chosen 29 will draw on a new £200 million transformation fund and tailored national support to develop local health and care services to keep people well, and bring home care, mental health and community nursing, GP services and hospitals together for the first time since 1948.

For patients, this will lead to a significant improvement in their experience of health services. For example people should have greater access to services, at times to suit them, as the Better Care Together programme develop more services and capacity in a setting closer to home.

The vanguards will take the national lead on the development of game-changing care models:

- multispecialty community providers (MCPs) – moving specialist care out of hospitals into the community;
- integrated primary and acute care systems (PACS) – joining up GP, hospital, community and mental health services, and;
- models of enhanced health in care homes – offering older people better, joined up health, care and rehabilitation services.

The national NHS will work with local vanguard sites to develop dedicated support packages to enable and accelerate change, and an intensive evaluation programme will seek evidence on what works so that this can be spread to other parts of the country.



All areas will benefit from a wider support and learning package which will be rolled out later this year, based on the learning from the vanguard sites. Additionally, as a result of the many examples of excellent models up and down the country, a wider programme of support is being put in place for some of the health and social care systems that applied to be part of the programme. This is being supported by the Kings Fund. Further details of the achievement will be covered later in the agenda.

Together for a Healthier Future

High risk pathways

Discussions took place at the beginning of the month with the Cumbria County Council health scrutiny committee to determine whether proposed changes to two high risk pathways (upper gastro intestinal bleeds and cardiac) would constitute a significant variation in service provision thereby requiring formal public consultation. This followed advice and support from the Northern Clinical Senate about the proposed changes which would result in around five very poorly patients a week travelling to Cumberland Infirmary for their treatment.

The committee decided that the proposed changes did represent a significant variation but that interim changes could be made. Further discussions will now take place with the scrutiny committee on the level of public consultation required.

Meanwhile work continues with the Senate on pathways for a small number of patients with respiratory problems, stroke and for people who are really very poorly when they are admitted to hospital.

Avoidable hospital Admissions Scheme

NHS Cumbria CCG has agreed that a successful scheme to reduce avoidable hospital admissions for patients in North Cumbria should be extended to involve local GP practices during day time hours for a six month pilot period.

This means local GPs working more closely with the ambulance service so that patients living in Allerdale, Copeland, Carlisle and Eden are only taken to hospital if an assessment shows they cannot be treated at home or in the community.

The Pathfinder scheme has been working successfully overnight and at weekends in these areas since early 2014. During this time North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust (NWAS) and Cumbria Health on Call (CHoC), which provides GP out of hours services, have been working closely to reduce hospital admissions where these can be avoided by providing care and treatment at home or in the community.

Under the Pathfinder scheme guidance is used by the paramedics to assess patients to decide if they need to be taken to an acute hospital. If the call out is overnight and the assessment by the paramedics shows the patient is very poorly they would be taken immediately to hospital. However, if the assessment shows the patient could be cared for at home or in the community, the paramedics contact CHoC for advice. They are called back as a priority and an action plan agreed which could mean a visit to the patient by an out of hours GP, telephone advice given to the patient and their family or carer by an out of hours GP, arrangements made for a district nurse to call or the advice could be that the patient would be better treated at hospital.

During the daytime pilot similar arrangements will be in place but involving the patient's own local GPs. As well as a visit or advice by the GP or attendance by another community healthcare professional, alternatives to being taken to hospital could also include taking the patient to an urgent care centre such as the newly opened urgent care centre at Keswick Community Hospital or at Workington Community Hospital if this was considered to be the most appropriate response for the patient.

Millom Alliance celebrates its first six months of operation.

Millom Alliance has celebrated its achievements from its first six months of operation as well as the 40th birthday of Millom Hospital by working together.

The 'Millom Alliance' is led by a number of organisations including the Waterloo House Surgery GP practice, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and University Hospitals and Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust. The communities are an equal partner in the alliance and are represented by the Millom Action Group. Other key partners include Cumbria Health on Call, North West Ambulance Service and Cumbria County Council.

The organisations are working together with the community groups to create a new clinical model of healthcare that would see more of the health budget for the local community spent in the town. In the first six-months the Alliance has achieved:

- The general practice surgery moving into refurbished clinic space in the hospital.
- Re-opened the hospital ward
- Produced a GP video resulting in the recruitment of a general practitioner.
- Placed the first advanced community paramedic in the North West in Millom.
- Placed a full time ward based Nurse Practitioner
- Created capacity to support more patients requiring intravenous treatment in the community, reducing referrals to FGH
- Upgraded the X-ray facility at the hospital
- Developed care home support
- Identified video consulting equipment to link Millom to A&E at FGH and CHOC
- Successful joint Millom Alliance/CLIC bid for a North West Leadership Academy £20k grant to develop an out of hospital leadership programme.
- Successful £28k bid to Health Education England North West for Telehealth equipment
- Purchase of St Georges Hall completed to enable demolition and creation of car park for the hospital (to start this month)
- Dedicated a nurse one day a week to work with the action group mobilising the community for health and wellbeing.

Launch of Maternity Matters in South Lakes

NHS Cumbria CCG is establishing a maternity forum for users, providers and commissioners of maternity services in South Lakeland.

Maternity Matters in South Lakes (MMSL) is aiming to be a group of people that includes parents, midwives and healthcare professionals working together to look at the provision of maternity services in South Lakes and how they can influence positive changes and improvements for the benefit of local women, parents and their families.

Various healthcare professionals including midwives from the Helme Chase Maternity Unit at Westmorland General Hospital and senior staff from UHMBT and the CCG will be on hand at the event to explain the ambition for MMSL, answer questions and listen to what people have to say.

There are currently two other user groups nearby including Maternity Matters in Furness and Maternity Matters Lancashire North. It is envisaged that all three groups would share information and ideas due to using the same maternity services at Furness General Hospital and Royal Lancaster Infirmary. The first event is on Thursday 23 April at The South Lakes Foyer, Yard 95a, Stricklandgate, Kendal from 6pm – 7.30pm.

Furness Listening Event

Over 60 members of the public attended the Furness Listening Event (FLE) held on Friday 30 January at Barrow Town Hall. A panel of local GPs and senior staff from the hospital fielded questions from the audience covering a wide range of topics from access to GP appointments, waiting times for appointments at hospital and how to secure a place to train as a nurse plus many more.

Deputy Lead GP for Furness locality, Dr Arabella Onslow, chaired the event and the panel included two GPs from Barrow in Furness, Dr Geoff Jolliffe and Dr Arun plus staff from UHMBT including Jackie Daniel, Chief Executive, Dr Paul Grout, Clinical Director for Acute and Emergency Medicine and Sascha Wells, Deputy Director of Midwifery.

Recommendations:

The Governing Body is asked to note this report.

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