

CCG Headquarters  
 St James Hospital  
 Portsmouth  
 PO4 8LD

3rd October 2013

Cllr. Peter Eddis, Chair  
 Portsmouth Health Overview Scrutiny Panel  
 Portsmouth City Council  
 Civic Offices  
 Guildhall Square  
 Portsmouth  
 PO1 2AL

Dear Councillor Eddis,

This is the second quarterly update letter that I am providing for you, on behalf of NHS Portsmouth Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The CCG has now been operating as a 'standalone' organisation for six months so I hope this provides you with a helpful insight into some of the work we have been doing.

**CCG assurance**

As part of the national assurance process, all CCGs are rated on a quarterly basis against the NHS England Assurance Framework on five important measurements of success (see table below.) We are pleased to report that overall we have been assessed as making good progress so far although we know there are some areas where we need to do more. We receive a red, amber or green rating and the table below shows how we did for the period between April and the end of June.

The patient rights domain highlights that we still have work to do to bring all local services up to scratch, particularly around waiting times for urgent care and some cancer services and diagnostic tests and we are working with provider organisations locally as we continue to try and address this.

Are local people getting good quality care? Important for the safety and positive outcomes of treatment	Yes
Are patient rights under the NHS Constitution being promoted? Helps people know what to expect from their treatment	More work needed
Are health outcomes improving for local people? Measures how successful treatments are	Yes
Are CCGs delivering services within their financial plans? Ensures services are affordable and sustainable for the future	Yes
Are conditions of CCG authorisation being addressed? Ensures people can be confident in the CCG as an organisation	No further work required

Alongside this we are working with Portsmouth City Council colleagues to further develop pooled budget arrangements as a result of an announcement that came out of the June 2013 Spending Round. This saw the establishment nationally of a £3.8 billion budget to be deployed locally on health and social care through pooled budget arrangements. This should support the work we are doing to transform the way care is provided, particularly in efforts to provide more appropriate community care for patients. We are continuing to work on these plans which will need to be signed off by the CCG, City Council and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

### **Summary care records**

As you may be aware CCGs across Hampshire are adopting the Summary Care Record scheme which should mean that patients in Portsmouth and throughout Hampshire who need emergency care can benefit from NHS staff having quicker, easier access to important information about them.

The Summary Care Record (SCR) is a secure electronic record containing key health information about a patient's medication, allergies and any previous bad reactions to medicines.

This information can make a significant difference to ensuring safe treatment in an emergency when no other information is available, for example, when a patient's GP practice is closed.

Letters are being sent to all patients explaining the benefits of the SCR. An opt-out form is included should a patient prefer not to have a Summary Care Record created.

Children under the age of 16 years will get an SCR unless their parents or guardians choose for them not to have one.

Access to a patient's SCR is strictly controlled. Only staff with an NHS smartcard can view a record, and only then if they are involved with that patient's treatment and have permission from the patient to do so.

You can find out more information about summary care records here:

<http://www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk/>

### **Patient Transport Service**

Along with our partner CCGs across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight we are currently seeking people's views on non-emergency patient transport services, as the CCGs are working together to develop plans to procure services from a single supplier in future. At present there are a number of different arrangements in place for patient transport services across the county.

The service transports patients who meet certain criteria to healthcare appointments. Access and eligibility for the service will not be affected by the new arrangements – this is simply about putting in place a more effective, efficient and consistent service serving all patients locally.

We are running a survey online ( [www.surveymonkey.com/s/patient-transport](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/patient-transport)) to find out what people think works well, and where they feel improvements could be made. This feedback will help us as we progress our plans for a single contract coming into effect next year. The survey runs until 31<sup>st</sup> October and is also available in paper form from 023 8062 7594.