

Portsmouth City 
Teaching Primary Care Trust

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Councillor David Horne
Chair, Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Portsmouth City Council
Guildhall Square
PORTSMOUTH
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Dear Councillor Horne

Interim Update

At the request of the HOSP, please find below two issues I wish to draw to members' attention and three updates that have been of interest to members in recent months.

Portsmouth Integrated Community Services Programme

In 2007 the HOSP was kept up-to-date on work the PCT was undertaking in partnership with the City Council to promote integrated health and intermediate care services as a key priority within the older people's commissioning strategy. Through analysis of the falls pathway, which included consultation with service users, statutory and voluntary sector partners, the opportunity to make clear improvements to the experiences of people who use community services in the City were identified. These benefits were discussed at a stakeholder meeting in June and the programme to take them forward was approved.

The vision for this programme is to build a health and social care system in Portsmouth City that gives people the right support to develop and implement their own plans for health and wellbeing. This help will be delivered through focussed community support that seeks to avoid referral to institutional care and safely reduce the length of any care away from home. This is in line with national benchmarks. A

programme plan and service user and public engagement and communication plan are now being developed.

Specifically the programme will include re-design and reconfiguration of the following services:

- Single Point of Access and Social Care Helpdesk to create one point of access and information for all community and intermediate health and social care services
- Rapid Response Team, Hospital Discharge Team, Independent Living Service, Community Rehabilitation Team, Older People's Mental Health Intermediate Care Team to create an integrated intermediate care team with a Rapid Access and Treatment Service and inter-disciplinary rehabilitation.
- Adult health and social care community services into an integrated team model, operating a lead professional or key worker model of care.

It will also review the following services:

- Amulree Day Hospital provision in line with revised intermediate care pathways.
- Interface between acute, primary and community health and social care, including discharge planning processes, links with care pathways, prevention services and specialist community teams such as stroke.

Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (Treatment of Heart Attacks)

The Joint Isle of Wight, Hampshire and Portsmouth Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a presentation on proposed changes to treatment of heart attacks within South Central at its meeting on 22nd July. The reason for change is to deliver faster more effective treatments which are recognised to deliver better outcomes with lower mortality and long terms outcome compared to current practice within the current financial allocation. Members who attended that meeting will, of course, have details of the proposed changes. For the HOSP, I set out below a summary of these and what action is now being undertaken by PCTs in the South Central area.

The proposal is for primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PPCI) to be the main or first treatment for patients suffering a heart attack. PPCI is a technique used to re-open an artery supplying heart muscle which has closed (occluded) causing a heart attack. A small balloon at the tip of a catheter tube is inserted via an artery in the groin or arm and guided to the blocked heart artery. It is briefly inflated and then removed leaving in place a “stent” – a rigid support which holds the artery open, allowing blood to flow more easily. PPCI is the use of this technique as the initial treatment of patients suffering more severe forms of heart attack.

The key to improving outcomes after heart attack is to re-establish coronary artery flow as quickly as possible and limit damage to the heart muscle. The benefits of PPCI as opposed to the current intervention, thrombolysis, appear in numerous clinical studies. To achieve these outcomes an overall “call to balloon” time needs to be less than 120 minutes. PCTs are beginning the engagement process with their respective population on the options for taking forward change. Three options identified, each of which can achieve a “call to balloon” time of 120 minutes. Briefly, these are as follows:

- **Option 1:** PPCI provided 24 hours a day in 2 centres: Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust and Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust
- **Option 2:** PPCI provided:
 - 24 hours a day in 4 centres: Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust, Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust and Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust **and**
 - Monday – Friday 8am to 6pm in 3 centres: Basingstoke and North Hampshire NHS Foundation Trust, Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust and Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **Option 3:** PPCI provided 24 hours a day in 4 centres: Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust, Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust, Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust

The PCT has begun informal discussions with key groups and individuals to gather initial views. Information on the proposed changes is being posted on the PCT's website and feedback invited by email at: tellus@ports.nhs.uk.

Commissioning of Wheelchair Services

The PCT has recently undertaken a marketing exercise, through the NHS Solent Supplies Service. This demonstrates that there are viable alternative providers for the disablement services, currently provided by Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust.

The PCT expects to undertake a formal procurement process by the autumn and is working with NHS Hampshire to look at options for taking this forward. Engagement with key groups and individuals in the community continues.

GP Led Health Centre

The Guildhall Walk Healthcare Centre opened its doors to the public on 1st August, 2009. The Centre is open from 8.00am to 8.00pm every day including week ends and Bank Holidays.

This facility enhances the general practice services available in the city, offering appointments for minor illnesses and injuries to registered and unregistered patients. The PCT particularly wants to encourage attendance from those people who do not normally access GP services such as the homeless, some young people and new communities coming into Portsmouth.

The Centre is managed on behalf of the PCT by Portsmouth Health Ltd. This is a partnership between Care UK, Ashley House Clinical Services Ltd and a consortium of local GPs. PCT commissioners will meet with Portsmouth Health Ltd on a monthly basis for the first six months and thereafter quarterly to monitor the contract which runs for a five-year period.

St Mary's Community Campus

The full business case for the re-development of the St Mary's Hospital site to a community health campus will not now go to the PCT Board until November. This delay allows the PCT to take fully into account the recent financial forecasts for the next few years and opportunities to improve access to local services that have emerged as a result of the opening of the new Queen Alexandra Hospital.

In addition, new ways of working have the potential for the PCT to use space at the new Queen Alexandra Hospital more efficiently than plans originally envisaged. This means additional space may be available for services that would benefit from being co-located with those already planned to be at Queen Alexandra Hospital.

The PCT will specifically review whether the community health campus is the best location for elderly rehabilitation and elderly intermediate care beds or if these should be sited at the new Queen Alexandra Hospital. Consideration will also be given to transferring the Phoenix Rehabilitation Centre from St Mary's Hospital site to the Queen Alexandra Hospital site.

The PCT will work closely with Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, other parts of the NHS and partners and stakeholders to ensure the most effective development of St Mary's Health Campus.

I hope this gives you a useful update. If there is any further information you require, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely



Rob Dalton
Director of Corporate Affairs