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26 February 2021

Cllr David Fuller
Chair, Portsmouth Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Members Services
Civic Offices
Portsmouth PO1 2AL

Dear Cllr Fuller,

Update letter for HOSP for March 2021

This letter is intended to update you and the members of the Panel on some of the activity that the Clinical Commissioning Group has been involved with in recent months.

Given the impact of COVID-19 this is the first official update we've provided since spring 2020. It's in addition to some informal briefings provided to update on certain time sensitive activity, which we're happy to continue to suit members.

Clearly the pandemic has been the primary focus for health and care during the past year, which has impacted on much of the planned activity and business as usual areas. This letter will summarise some of the COVID work but also include other projects and activity that we have been able to progress or support.

Our website – www.portsmouthccg.nhs.uk – provides some further details about what we do if members are interested and, of course, we are always happy to facilitate direct discussions if that would help. As an aside, an updated website will shortly be launching which meets new accessibility criteria.

Health and Care Portsmouth update

Integrated Care Systems - in February the Government published a [White Paper](#) outlining proposals it plans to take forward to Parliament to become law as a Health and Care Bill.

These proposals include:

- Legislate for every part of England to be covered by an integrated care system (ICS).

- Merge the functions currently being performed by non-statutory STPs/ICSs with the functions of a CCG
- Permit joint committees, collaborative commissioning approaches and joint appointments, to encourage greater integration.
- Give the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care new powers to set the objectives of NHS England, intervene in service reconfiguration, have the ability to make direct payments to social care providers, and take on specific public health functions
- Enable NHS England to delegate or jointly commission some of its responsibilities to ICSs
- Ensure more effective data use across the health and care system
- Allow ICSs to delegate significantly to 'place level' and to provider collaboratives
- Legislate for the NHS to be free to make decisions on how it organises itself without the involvement of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA)
- Amend previous legislation on social care to provide a new duty for the Care Quality Commission to assess Local Authorities' delivery of their adult social care duties, alongside powers for the Secretary of State to intervene and provide support where there is a risk of local authorities' failing to meet these duties.

The enactment of these proposals would mean that Portsmouth CCG and the functions it currently fulfils will become part of the wider Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS. However, the proposals are also clear that place-based activity - which will typically align to local authority boundaries - will be essential. ICSs will be given a great deal of flexibility in how this will work and will be expected to build on the agreements and relationships already in place rather than starting from scratch.

At the heart of the Health and Care Portsmouth operating model is partnership working to deliver the best health and care to city residents so we're already aligned with what the white paper is looking to achieve from this perspective.

In addition, prior to this paper we were in the process of establishing closer links with the ICS through the appointment of a shared Accountable Officer (AO), which is being formally signed off with a view to taking effect from 1 April. In line with this, Dr Linda Collie will become the new Clinical Lead for the CCG and Health and Care Portsmouth, continuing to jointly chair the Health and Wellbeing Board. Linda's new appointment will ensure we can continue the strong clinical focus we have always had. Linda will continue to work as part of our clinical executive and with Dr Elizabeth Fellows as Chair of the CCG Board. In addition Linda will work closely with Dr Nicola Decker, the Clinical Lead for SHIOW CCG, and other CCG locality clinical leads to ensure strong primary care representation within the ICS.

We were also continuing to work on strengthening our integration with Portsmouth City Council which has now seen us delegate responsibility for the executive delivery of the

Health and Care Portsmouth agenda to David Williams, Chief Executive of PCC. David will lead a shared executive team across Portsmouth CCG and the City Council, comprising of The Director of Adult Social Services (DASS), Director of Children's Services (DCS), Director of Public Health (DPH), Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods, Chief Finance Officer and Director of Health and Care Portsmouth. This offers us an exciting opportunity to build on the work we have done together to date and put us in a really good position to focus on the wider determinants of health to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities within the city. It will also help us work more closely with the H10W ICS. The hope is that these changes can also take effect from 1 April. Alongside this we are also working through the internal CCG management structure that will support these changes and will update as this progresses.

We will continue to work closely with colleagues in the Portsmouth and South East Hampshire area and across the Hampshire and Isle of Wight system to agree how we will work together in future.

Kooth - Health and Care Portsmouth commissioned Kooth, the online counselling and emotional wellbeing service for young people. This became available in January 2021 and replaced the previous U Matter service. Kooth.com is for young people aged 11-18 years old, or up to the age of 25 for care leavers and those with an Education Health and Care Plan. The site provides young people with a free, safe and anonymous way to access support from qualified counsellors as well as a range of self-help resources for mild to moderate mental health issues, such as anxiety, loneliness, stress and body image.

Kooth has no referrals, thresholds or waiting lists. Young people can self-register at kooth.com. The site is available 24/7, with counselling available 12pm - 10pm Monday to Friday and 6pm - 10pm at weekends, all year round.

The decision to introduce an online platform follows feedback from young people and their families that a digital service would be a convenient and accessible way to access support, with young people liking the ability to remain anonymous.

The launch of Kooth further bolsters Portsmouth's mental health support for children and young people which was praised in the recent multi-agency report following joint targeted area inspections (JTAs) in the city. The Kooth offer complements the Mental Health Support Teams, which are currently available in 32 Portsmouth primary and secondary schools, and this additional provision will help to ensure that young people can be supported more quickly. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) continues to be available to support with more moderate to severe mental health issues in young people. Other online national resources also exist to provide mental health advice and support to young people and their families, ensuring there is a well-rounded offer available.

Badgernet Maternity - we've been working closely with PHU as it changes the way it delivers maternity care for women across Portsmouth and South East Hampshire with the implementation of a new digital system, Badgernet Maternity. This transition means that women both self-refer for maternity support online and have access to their personalised care plans online and via an app, My Maternity Notes. A self-referral phone number and paper notes can be used for those not online.

This new digital system allows midwives, maternity support workers, doctors, anaesthetists and other specialities to spend more time delivering efficient and timely care, while making it easier for women to access the information they need.

Once fully implemented across all local sites, this will allow the maternity team to easily transfer care between sites, whether as an emergency or elective transfer, or for women receiving care across two Trusts.

Portsmouth is the first area for this new system to go live and this was launched at the end of February. We'll be able to update at subsequent meetings on how this is helping to improve maternity care.

Primary Care

Guildhall Walk Medical Centre

A decision has been made not to renew the contract to provide primary care services through the Guildhall Walk Healthcare Centre when it comes to an end on Thursday 30 September 2021. As a result of this, the practice will close on this date.

This decision has been taken as the future of the building that currently houses the surgery is uncertain, and we would like to minimise any disruption or anxiety this situation could cause for patients.

The three nearest practices all have capacity and the 8,400 registered patients at Guildhall Walk Medical Centre will be given a choice of where to attend. This transition will be managed by the CCG meaning no inconvenience for patients.

Please see the separate report provided for more detailed information on this decision.

North Harbour Medical Group

There is a proposed move for the North Harbour Medical Group (NHMG) from their current location in Cosham Health Centre to a purpose built premises on the Highclere site (currently an underused car park) by Treetops in Cosham, PO6 3EP. Planning permission is due to be submitted shortly. There have been communications for NHMG patients about this potential move, and the contractor has issued letters to residents living near the new proposed site.

Cosham Health Centre is an older building but the new premises would be more modern with good on-site parking facilities and improved access. The new location is a short distance from Cosham Health Centre and is well served by public transport.

North Harbour Medical Group would stay in Cosham Health Centre until the new premises was ready so there would be no disruption to patient care. The same team would then relocate to the Highclere site so patients would continue to see the same faces they're familiar with.

If planning was granted without any delays then work could begin in spring and would be projected to take approximately nine months.

University Surgery Practice

Between December 2021 and January 2022, the University Surgery Practice will move into new larger modern premises in the heart of Commercial Road. This is necessary due to University redevelopment plans and a growing population, which means the practice needs to be able to accommodate more patients. It will also allow them to offer additional services. Patient care will continue at the current site until the new building is ready for the practice to move into.

TrUE update - One of the challenges emerging from the ongoing NHS response to the COVID-19 pandemic is the impact this has on planning with certainty for the future development of some health and care services, including a number of community-based urgent and elective care services.

A number of contracts for the provision of urgent and elective care services held by Portsmouth, Fareham and Gosport, and South Eastern Hampshire (PSEH) Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were due to expire between January-May 2021.

In the months before the pandemic, and responding to the potential opportunity afforded by certain contracts reaching their renewal stage at the same time, organisations in the Portsmouth and South Eastern Hampshire health and care system had begun considering the future of urgent (same day) care services and some elective procedures. This included a range of services at St Mary's NHS Treatment Centre and same day/integrated primary care services across Portsmouth and South East Hampshire. The work was beginning to look at opportunities to transform aspects of urgent and elective care to better meet the aspirations set out in the NHS long term plan, and to provide improved, more integrated services for patients locally.

Events of the past 12 months have caused this work to be paused, whilst also seeing the emergence of new solutions (such as the NHS 111 First programme and a more integrated approach to the delivery of primary care services) as a direct result of the pandemic which, obviously, would need to be considered alongside future transformation plans.

Given the current situation, and the ongoing uncertainty about when this work might fully resume, the decision has been taken to extend those contracts that were due to expire this year to ensure that stability is maintained in the system at this critical time.

We propose to do this utilising a mix of contract extensions (where available) and direct award notices to incumbent providers in order to secure provision for the foreseeable future (typically a further 24 month extension). This enables us to maintain the 'status quo' in terms of working with existing providers which enables us to ensure stability for our local communities during this period when so much remains uncertain.

During this period we will continue to work with our providers within the local health system to continuously improve care in terms of access, quality and outcomes.

A further additional briefing can be provided if this is considered helpful.

Coronavirus

Unsurprisingly COVID-19 has dominated focus over the past 12 months. Our activity has included:

- Supporting GP practices to provide care differently
- Managing the vaccination programme via Primary Care Networks and linking in with the wider programme including hospital hubs and vaccination centres
- Working with HIVE Portsmouth and Portsmouth City Council on outreach to clinically extremely vulnerable residents to detail support available whilst shielding
- Working closely with Adult Social Care and other health partners to support the care sector

Winter pressures

Covid has meant that trying to mitigate pressures on the health and care system has become even more important.

There has been a high degree of co-ordination between all parts of health and care, both in Portsmouth and the surrounding areas with a focus on:

- Encouraging uptake of the free flu vaccination for those eligible
- Supporting PHU with the roll out of 111 First to encourage those wanting to attend ED to speak with NHS 111 first who might direct them to another more appropriate service e.g. urgent treatment centre, pharmacy, GP or who can book them an appointment at ED if this is where they need to be seen.
- Promoting alternatives to ED and detailing what support is available at these sites
- Ensuring safe and timely discharges from hospital including the Gunwharf unit at Harry Sotnick House where patients with Covid who are well enough to leave hospital but can't return home can be treated in isolation
- Strengthening out of hours primary care provision

Yours sincerely

Innes Richens

Chief of Health and Care Portsmouth