

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 6 SEPTEMBER 2017

REPORT OF EAST LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND CCG

PRIMARY CARE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE NORTH BLABY AREA

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the committee with an update on the issues facing GP Surgeries, together with sustainability plans for the future primary care in the area covered by East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group (ELRCCG).

Background

2. Primary care continues to be the foundation on which healthcare has been provided since the inception of the NHS in 1948. We know that high-quality primary and community services is the key that unlocks the potential for preventative, proactive management of patients, reducing the need for acute and bed-based care, and addressing many of the health inequalities that exist across our population.
3. However, there are significant challenges being faced by primary care and General Practice in particular. The growing workload and need to manage increasing numbers of patients with multiple and complex health needs, coupled with the uncertainty of future workforce, means we need to radically rethink the model of General Practice if we are to make it sustainable beyond the current decade
4. There are currently 6 GP practices that offer medical services to the residential population within the Blaby and surrounding area and these are listed below;
 - i. Kingsway Surgery
 - ii. Forest House Medical Centre
 - iii. Enderby Medical Centre
 - iv. Glenfield Surgery
 - v. Narborough Health Centre
 - vi. The Limes Medical Centre
5. Together these practices cover a residential population which currently stands at 61,518. Within the geographical area there are 15 care homes, varying from specialist nursing, to residential homes. Forest House Medical Centre has the highest number of care home registered patients.
6. There are already capacity constraints in the primary care facilities that are delivered in this area, namely Kingsway Surgery and Forest House Medical Centre.
7. Kingsway Surgery has experienced significant changes in clinical partnership over last 18 months. This has resulted in the clinical partnership becoming unstable, and unable to meet the needs of the registered population with four partners resigning.

8. From the 1 June 2017, Dr Duru joined the partnership, and Drs Ghosh and Duru are now the GMS contract holders. The practice has successfully recruited two Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) and they primarily provide on the day/acute access for patients. The practice is also currently recruiting for a Salaried GP to join the practice with the ultimate aim of becoming a partner.
9. Both Kingsway and Forest House have seen an increase in the number of patients registering at their practice as a direct result of the approval by Leicester City CCG to reduce the boundary of two of their member practices, namely Hockley Farm Medical Practice and Merridale Medical Centre.
10. Additionally Blaby District Council has approved planning permission for erection of 750 houses within Lubbethorpe. The application includes funding a new medical centre to provide primary medical services, however, the trigger point to release funding will not be activated for at least a further 4 years. Therefore, patients' choice of GP surgery is restricted to Kingsway and Forest House.
11. Construction of the Thorpe Astley development began in 1994. A community centre to serve this housing estate was opened in October 2010, and historically space was made available for primary medical care services as part of the centre and following an agreement between the former South Leicestershire PCT and Blaby District Council. To this point however the space has not been used for primary medical services.

General Practice Forward View

Lease incentives for General Practice

12. The General Practice Forward View committed to providing financial support to every GP practice that is a tenant in an NHS Property Services or Community Health Partnerships building to enter into a new lease. This offer is available until 30th November 2017 and includes:
 - Reimbursement of Stamp Duty Land Tax for the initial term (up to 15 years)
 - Contributing up to £1,000 plus VAT of legal fees related to the lease transaction
 - Reimbursement of management fees for the financial year 2016/2017 and 2017/2018.
13. The Local Area Team will be working with practices that qualify to make sure they do not miss out and take up the offer by the deadline outlined above.

Clinical Pharmacist in General Practice

14. NHS England is inviting GP practices and other providers of general practice medical services to apply for funding to help recruit, train and develop more clinical pharmacists. Providers participating in the programme will receive funding for three years to recruit and establish clinical pharmacists in their general practices for the long term.
15. Clinical pharmacists work as part of the general practice team to resolve day-to-day medicine issues and consult with and treat patients directly. This includes providing extra help to manage long-term conditions, advice for those on multiple medications

and better access to health checks. The role is pivotal to improving the quality of care and ensuring patient safety.

16. Having clinical pharmacists in GP practices means GPs can focus their skills where they are most needed, for example on diagnosing and treating patients with complex conditions. This helps GPs manage the demands on their time.
17. NHS England is supporting applications in wave 3 pilot as part of this initiative; the deadline for the third wave of applications has been extended to the 29th September 2017. An application will be submitted on behalf of Forest House, Enderby Surgery, Glenfield Surgery and The Limes by ELR Federation.

International GP Recruitment

18. NHS England has made a commitment to strengthen the primary care workforce, and the initial focus was to recruit at least 500 suitably qualified doctors into general practice into some of the most hard to recruit areas in England by 2020, including funding the costs of recruiting, relocating and training overseas doctors.
19. While GP training places are increasing year on year and many GPs are returning to practices, many practices continue to face recruitment issues, and newly qualified GPs are often working as locums rather than joining a practice as a permanent GP, with some older GPs also leaving the profession early.
20. Expressions of interest have been invited from practices across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, of which Kingsway Surgery has stated they wish to be part of the application which the CCG will be submitting to NHS England by the deadline of 28th November 2017.

Transformation Funding

21. ELR CCG must ensure the sustainability of general practice by implementing the General Practice Forward View, including plans for Practice Transformational Support. NHS England has committed funding of £3 per patient over the next two years.
22. Therefore the CCG has designed a scheme that stimulates development of at scale providers, to support for example locality working to deliver services, working by localities enabling sustainability by being able to work in collaborative arrangements.
23. Member practices are being encouraged to work together, in a collaborative approach, which this could be for example through joint working either formally or informally, practice mergers. The eligibility requirement for this scheme is for a minimum number of 2 member practices per bid.

Proposals/Options

24. Forest House Medical Centre has secured funding from NHS England under the Estates Technology Transformation Funding (ETTG) process; this is for premises improvements to their Warren Lane branch location. However, whilst the practice has

drawn up plans for the premises it has not as yet submitted a formal planning application to Blaby District Council.

25. Kingsway's current premises are limited in respect of their use and were never intended to provide services for a patient population of over 9000. The practice is unlikely to see any capital funding support from either section 106 monies or the ETTF programme.
26. At the original time when Thorpe Astley was developed there was not a requirement to include a new medical centre however there was provision made at Thorpe Astley Community Centre which consists of two clinical rooms. They are not currently fit for purpose owing to and not limited to the lack of reception facilities, and as a minimum require medical, general office equipment, together with secure IT networks and IT hardware to be installed.
27. As part of the review into both in and out of hour's on-the-day access to Primary Care, ELR CCG have reviewed the site provision across the whole CCG. Blaby and Lutterworth patients currently have access to a weekend only out of hours GP service which is bookable only via 111. However, no locality based walk-in service provision exists in the immediate area. Patients have the option to travel to Oadby, or the Emergency Departments in Leicester or Rugby.
28. As part of the re-procurement of the out of hours GP and current Urgent Care services, the CCG are reviewing the number and locations of services sites with the intention to address the current equality of access issues.
29. The CCG is proactively encouraging collaboration and joint working between its member practices, and has received confirmation that Kingsway Surgery, Forest House, Glenfield Surgery, The Limes and Enderby Medical Centre have agreed to work together on a number of areas such as improving access on the day access to primary care, 7 day working.

Consultation

30. East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG are currently conducting a 12 week consultation on the future of GP services for patients registered at Narborough Health Centre. This follows a request made to the CCG by Dr Kapur to cease offering primary care services from Narborough Health Centre and amend the status of the branch location at 193 Narborough Road Leicester to the main site. This would mean that there would no longer be any Primary Medical Services provided from Narborough Health Centre.
31. Members of the public are invited to attend all public meetings at the CCG such as Governing Body, Primary Care Commissioning Committee.
32. Additionally the CCG continues to give patients a voice, and are encouraged to attend the Patient Participation Group Meeting on 7th September 2017 at Leicester Race Course Oadby, and the CCG Annual General Meeting on 26th September 2017 at Stamford Court, Oadby, Leicester.

Resource Implications

33. Unknown at this time.

Timetable for Decisions

34. As outlined in the LLR Sustainability and Transformation Partnership document, however, special elements of service delivery are outlined to the GP Five Year Forward View and these milestones include, International Recruitment, Practice Pharmacists, and Improving Access.

Conclusions

35. The CCG intends to work closely with patients, and stakeholders, in developing health care services that meets the needs of their patients, whilst meeting commissioning guidelines from NHS England.

Background papers

LLR Sustainability Partnership
NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance
GP Five Year Forward View

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

Mr. G. Welsh CC
Mrs. A. J. Hack CC
Mr. D. Jennings CC
Mrs. L. Richardson CC
Mr. R. Blunt CC
Mr. L. Breckon CC
Mr. T. J. Richardson CC
Mr. E. F. White CC

Officer to Contact

Clare Sherman – Interim Head of Primary Care
Telephone: 0116 2955865
Email: Clare.sherman@Eastleicestershireandrutlandccg.nhs.uk

Partnership Working and associated issues

36. Outlined in the LLR Sustainability and Transformation Partnership

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