

August 2012 update

Transition update

Wiltshire's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the new GP-led commissioning organisation which will be responsible for buying local health services in Wiltshire, continues to develop its commissioning arrangements before it applies for 'authorisation' status in November 2012.

The organisation will take up commissioning leadership from April 2013. The organisation has established its Clinical Governing Board, with 14 voting members (consisting of a Chairman, three GPs who will act as 'locality representatives', an additional three GPs, a registered nurse and a secondary care specialist doctor, one Chief Accountable Officer, one Chief Finance Officer, one practice manager and two lay members) and eight non-voting members: (three 'locality' directors, Wiltshire Council's Director of Social Services, the Director of Public Health for Wiltshire, one member of HealthWatch and two lay members).

The CCG is considering its staffing structure whilst developing those commissioning functions it intends to keep in house. It is estimated that the organisation will have around 70 staff members and it will hold responsibility for managing a budget of approximately £460m to support the commissioning of high quality health services in Wiltshire. Working closely with GPs and other clinicians, the CCG will lead on the development of plans and projects which help meet the NHS's required national savings target of £20 billion.

Wiltshire CCG will take up responsibility for commissioning in 'shadow' form from October 2012, with support from the existing Primary Care Trust staff.

Salisbury walk-in centre

The coalition Government's Health and Social Care Bill 2010, requires Primary Care Trusts (such as NHS Wiltshire) to be abolished from April 2013. Now that the Health Bill has been enacted, the arrangements for the commissioning of services provided at Walk in Centres across the country need to change. NHS Wiltshire holds a five year contract with Salisbury walk-in centre, in the final year of the contract, the PCT will not exist. Furthermore, the Health Act sets out that from April 2013, all such contracts are to be split between the new NHS Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). NHS Wiltshire and Wiltshire CCG therefore need to consider the options for the future of Salisbury Walk in Centre, under the circumstances imposed through national policy.

Wiltshire CCG and NHS Wiltshire together recognise that the Salisbury Walk in Centre provides excellent services for patients who use it. The great majority of the people who use the services are actually registered with one of the ten Salisbury GP practices, however it is wrong to assume that patients use the services at the Walk in Centre because they cannot get an appointment at their own GP practice – our figures show that the Salisbury GP practices have higher satisfaction rates than the national average.

The Walk-In-Centre's future post March 2014 will be discussed by Wiltshire CCG at a later date as part of their considerations for the wider options for health services across the whole of Wiltshire. Clinical Commissioning Group will strive to ensure all future outcomes are ones which provide the highest quality, best value services for the future.

NHS Wiltshire launches its Neurological Conditions booklet

The fourth annual stakeholder event for people with long term neurological conditions was held at Devizes Sports Club on Friday 3 August.

The booklet has been compiled and created by NHS Wiltshire with input from people living with long term conditions and their carers. It gives information on the services available in Wiltshire and copies are now available for the public.

Neurological conditions include a wide range of conditions from stroke and brain injuries, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinsons Disease and Motor Neurone Disease, through to very rare often genetic conditions.

Some conditions cause progressive decline and disability whilst others can cause sudden unpredictable periods of symptoms after long periods of general good health.

To view the booklet online go to:

<http://www.wiltshire.nhs.uk/Downloads/Publications/leaflets/NHS-Neurology-booklet.pdf>

The next PCT Cluster Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 September at 10am in the Conference Room, Southgate House, Pans Lane, Devizes.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. Papers are published a week before the meeting on www.wiltshire.nhs.uk or on request from Stacey Saunders, NHS Wiltshire (tel: 01380 733839, email: stacey.saunders@wiltshire.nhs.uk)