

NHS Update – July 2011

NHS Reforms – the Health and Social Care Bill 2011

Following the publication of the report of the NHS Future Forum in June 2011, the Government has set out a detailed policy response which announces important changes to the government's plans for modernisation of the NHS. The changes include:

- Change from GP Commissioning Consortia to Clinical Commissioning Groups with Board members and wider duties to involve patients and public
- Stronger safeguards against competition
- Additional safeguards against privatisation
- More choice and involvement for patients
- Increased emphasis on joint commissioning
- Strong messages about integration of health and social care
- Revised timetable

NHS Wiltshire will continue working closely with local GPs to establish the structures and organisation of the Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure a smooth transfer of services and commissioning duties in April 2013. The emerging Clinical Commissioning Groups will become sub-committees of their respective NHS Boards, which for Wiltshire currently means three Clinical Commissioning Groups - North and Kennet, West Wiltshire Yatton Keynell and Devizes (WWYKD) and the Sarum NHS Alliance.

PCT clustering

Jeff James and Jenny Howells have been appointed Chief Executive and Director of Finance respectively, across PCT cluster which comprises NHS Wiltshire and NHS Bath and North East Somerset. The Chief Executive is accountable for the quality, finance, performance and the development of commissioning functions across the whole cluster area, supported by a single executive team. Clustering also helps to deliver the national ambition of a 43% decrease in management costs across the NHS by 2013, as set by the Department of Health.

Jeff James will lead a single Executive Team drawn from existing staff in the South West region. Recruitment to other posts within the Executive Team is underway, with positions advertised nationally and expressions of interest received. Interviews are to be held in early July.

NHS Wiltshire and NHS BANES will continue to exist as legal entities and their Boards will continue to meet separately to carry out their strategic duties led by their existing respective Chairmen.