



North Cumbria
Clinical Commissioning Group

Healthcare For The Future Update

NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group
Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee
18 July 2019

1. Introduction

The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Health Scrutiny Committee on the progress made following the Healthcare For the Future Consultation.

The public consultation was held September to December 2016, with decisions made in March 2017.

2. Maternity and Paediatrics

Maternity

NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) met on Wednesday 3 July 2019 to consider the findings of the Independent Review Group chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE.

The report can be read in full in the appendix:

The Governing Body considered the following recommendations:

- i. The existing pattern of maternity services with consultant-led units in Whitehaven and Carlisle is operating effectively at present and is proving innovative and adaptable in overcoming challenges. A commitment should be given to sustain this service pattern.
- ii. Midwifery-led services operating alongside these units are important in offering choice of birth setting in line with Better Births. A commitment should also be given to sustain this element of the service pattern.
- iii. There will be challenges to sustaining this service pattern. It is important that a decision about Option 1 does not lead to any sense of complacency or 'job done'. It is also important, however, that the stability of Option 1 is not undermined by a perception of crisis every time a challenge arises. A commitment should be given to maintaining vigilance and supporting innovative measures to counter these challenges in future, continuing the collaborative Working Together approach between the community and the NHS.

The Governing Body voted unanimously to accept the recommendations and acknowledged and thanked North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust for its hard work and creativity in tackling the issues undermining sustainability.

Governing Body members also praised staff in the service for their hard work in uncertain times and the community – especially those in the Working Together Group - prepared to work in a different way with the NHS.

The documents in the appendix are:

- 1) A report from the Independent Review Group (IRG) chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE
- 2) A response from North Cumbria University Hospitals Trust (NCUH) regarding the implementation of the recommendations

- 3) The power point presentation developed by the Working Together Steering Group for a workshop with Dr Bill Kirkup CBE on 7 June 2019
- 4) Evidence review of impact of distance / time travelled and outcomes by SPH - Solutions for Public Health. This was commissioned to inform the work of the Independent Review Group, and is included in the Governing Body papers to ensure transparency and to share information with members of the public.

All papers can be found here:

<http://www.northcumbriaccg.nhs.uk/about-us/how-we-make-decisions/Governing-Body-Meetings/2019/3-july/03--independent-review-group-%E2%80%93-maternity-report.pdf>

Maternity App

Women registering their pregnancy in north Cumbria are now some of the first across the country to have access to electronic maternity notes via an app. The 'Maternity Notes' app is available to download to a smartphone or tablet, and helps women track their pregnancy journey, keep a note of their ante-natal appointments and upload photos of themselves, their bump and eventually their baby. It also contains lots of information about baby's development as they move through their pregnancy, and up to six weeks post-birth. The new system is safer too, with women no longer needing to carry paper maternity notes.

Women who have a smartphone but no data can use NHS WiFi at local GPs, hospitals and other wifi hotspots to access 'Maternity Notes' and, for those who don't have a smartphone, the app can be accessed on the website on home PCs or at their local library.

Since going live on 1 April, 100% of women registering a new pregnancy have signed up to the app through www.ncuh.nhs.uk/maternitybooking

Paediatrics

The Short Stay Paediatric Assessment Units (SSPAU) are working on both sites. Feedback from staff and service-users has been positive. A number of recruitment initiatives have been positive increasing the number of consultants at WCH and introducing a new medical staffing model across the service.

There is currently no change to overnight beds at WCH.

The SSPAUs will continue to develop when required staffing is in place.

3. Stroke Services

Stroke

Work continues to develop a Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) at the Cumberland Infirmary Carlisle, but acute services for north Cumbria will not change until conditions to support the development are in place.

There is considerable work to ensure estates and equipment issues are resolved, as well as the ongoing challenge around staffing. Progress is expected over the summer.

Copeland Community Stroke Prevention Project

Work with Building Health Partnerships – supported by NHS England - to develop a community-led stroke prevention movement is ongoing. The Copeland Community Stroke Prevention Group has planned a series of community events offering health testing and advice to reduce the number of avoidable strokes.

There have been two events – one in Whitehaven on 14th June and the second at Distington Vintage Rally on 7th.

Cumbria Community Pharmacy is offering testing at three pharmacies in Copeland which started in the Spring offering anyone who hasn't been previously diagnosed with high blood pressure, the chance to monitor at home so when they return we have a detailed picture and can recommend any next steps if they are needed. The pharmacies taking part are Mirehouse Pharmacy, the Seacliffe Pharmacy in Kells, and Seascale Pharmacy.

Experience at the first event in Whitehaven includes:

- 92 people who had blood pressure and/or pulse checks
- Ages ranged from 19-80 years
- 11 people were referred to their community pharmacy with home monitoring tested to provide a more detailed picture
- 2 were checked by a GP on the day

Feedback included:

- A thank you from one young man who had lost a close family member with heart problems but had been putting off getting tested
- A business owner who has struggled to find the time to visit the GP who has been referred to the community pharmacy project.
- There were also conversations about the importance of taking prescribed medications and several people welcomed the idea of home monitoring through our community pharmacy project to get a more rounded picture

Around 100 people were seen at the event in Distington.

For more information contact...

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