

Stakeholder Briefing No 10 – 30 September 2016

Re-shaping Community Health Services in South Devon and Torbay

Consultation runs until 23 November 2016

This e-mail briefing highlights and responds to issues raised and signposts where more information has been published. People can sign up to receive it by emailing sdtccg.consultation@nhs.net

Public meetings

Four events have been held this week in Paignton and Brixham. A passionate case was made at all three Paignton meetings to keep both the community hospital and its minor injuries unit with many people arguing that, as the second largest town in Devon, both were needed to support the local population. There was also criticism of the proposal to locate a clinical hub in Brixham rather than Paignton, where the population is smaller and access more difficult. People argued for the retention of a minor injuries unit in the Bay, believing that Totnes and Newton Abbot were too far for people to travel, and suggested that this proposal would increase pressure on A&E at Torbay.

People in Brixham also argued for the retention of its minor injuries unit on the basis that as a peninsula, travel out of the area was difficult, especially in summer. Transport issues were a major concern, an issue recognised by the CCG but not one which the NHS could resolve on its own.

Common concerns related to the need for more NHS funding, the challenge of recruiting staff to community roles, the quality of care homes, pressures on GPs and the viability of looking after people at home when social care was under such pressure.

Additional meetings

This week's meetings were all full and many people who wanted to participate in Paignton were unable to do so. The CCG is really pleased that so many people want to give their views and is really sorry that people couldn't get into the Paignton meetings. The largest available venue was booked which enabled meetings to be held during the day and in the evening. Further meeting(s) are being organised and these will be publicised widely. Everyone turned away who left contact details will be contacted directly.

An additional meeting has been organised for **Ashburton** on 8 November at South Dartmoor Community College, starting at 6.30pm. Those who could not get into one of the three earlier meetings in the town have already been invited.

Upcoming public meetings

This coming week sees a meeting on 6 October in the Upton Vale Baptist Church in St Marychurch Road, TQ1 3HY, starting at 6.30pm.

Travel issues

Questions have been asked about the travel information provided. The South West Academic Health Science Network used nationally accepted standards and methods of calculation to provide the CCG with this evidence. The increase in travel time as a result of the proposed changes is an average across the whole CCG area and not linked to any one journey.

The times for public transport are based on the quickest time to get from start to destination during 8am and 6pm. These are then averaged for the five weekdays and the two weekend days to give the average time to get from start to destination. Travel times for car travel are based on averages from Department of Transport data on peak and default travel times and are again based on an average across the CCG footprint.

Seasonal variations in traffic flows, whether for summer or winter, are not specifically reflected in the indicative figures. Seasonal pressures impact on the current model and will do likewise in relation to any future model. A key element of the proposals is to bring care closer to home, for substantial numbers of people, travel times will be reduced as they will receive care via the clinical hubs and/or local health and wellbeing centres.

Minor injuries

Questions have been raised as to the difference between minor injuries units (MIU) and enhanced primary care MIU services. Where in the past it has been impossible to recruit staff to MIUs, the Trust has funded GP practices to provide an enhanced level of injury management. This doesn't provide the full range of MIU services, for example not including x-rays and operates within normal primary care working hours only.

Should the consultation proposals be approved, the Trust is proposing to provide funding to a limited number of local GP practices, in areas where there is reasonable likelihood of significant delay in treatment for patients on the basis of where they live and/or their difficulties in accessing MIUs elsewhere. These proposals cannot be finalised until the outcome of the consultation is known but it is this GP based service that is meant by the enhanced primary care MIU services.

Information on website

At different meetings requests for information have arisen, much of which is on our website www.southdevonandtorbayccg.nhs.uk/community-health-services. This includes the support documents which have been available at meetings:

- The clinical case for change
- Information about the use of local services
- Options and rationale
- Population case for change
- The financial case for change
- Travel times
- Summary of stakeholder engagement and feedback
- Consultation terminology
- Buildings

More information can be sought, questions asked, invitations to attend community meetings submitted or paper copies requested by:

- Emailing sdtccg.consultation@nhs.net
- Writing to South Devon and Torbay CCG, Pomona House, Torquay, TQ2 7FF
- Calling 01803 652511 office hours (voicemail messaging overnight/weekends).

Submitting your views

The feedback questionnaire can be accessed via the CCG or Trust website or via www.communityconsultation.co.uk. The consultation closes on 23 November and the outcome is likely to be considered by the CCG's Governing Body at a meeting in public in January/February 2017.