

NHS Sefton update for Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) February 2011

If you would like more information about any of the items contained in this update, or if you have any questions about local health services, or any particular issues you would like to raise, please contact NHS Sefton directly on 0151 247 7051.

1) Update on NHS reforms

a) GP commissioners - Pathfinder status for south, board elected in north

South Sefton Practice Based Commissioning Confederation has been granted GP pathfinder status in the second wave of consortia announcements by the Department of Health. It means that half the country is covered by pathfinders. Over the coming months, SSPBCC will be sharing ideas, information and best practice, so they can address any issues that arise around the new structures straight away. Chair, Dr Clive Shaw is being supported by Deborah Jones, NHS Sefton's Director of Strategy and Service Development.

Southport and Formby Practice Based Commissioning Consortium have elected a new Board, naming Dr Niall Leonard as Chair. They are now also working towards pathfinder status with the support of Fiona Clark, NHS Sefton's Director of Corporate Performance and Standards.

b) Guidance around clustering of PCTs

The Department of Health has set out a clearer picture of how primary care trusts will work together to support the transition to the new commissioning structures over the next two years. All PCTs must form into clusters by June 2011, with a single executive team. This will consolidate skills, maintaining capacity, ensuring strong leadership during through to 2013 when PCTs are abolished and the continued good performance, quality and financial management of local health services. Clustering will also allow room for emerging GP consortia and Health and Wellbeing Boards to develop. Commissioning support units within clusters will work with consortia during this time to ensure that they are ready to take on their full statutory role in 2013.

2) Children's health 'hub' takes shape

Work on the new children's health hub inside Southport Centre for Health and Wellbeing is underway, with the first services expected to move in during April. The first phase will see community paediatrics, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, child and adolescent mental health services, speech and language specialists and optometry provided in the hub. The second phase will include some outpatient clinics that are currently provided at Ormskirk Hospital. The NHS Sefton Board

gave its formal support to further developing the hub at its meeting in early February. This was the main recommendation of the 'Improving Children's Health Services in North Sefton' report. It looks in detail at the data and clinical evidence around children's services in Southport and Formby, along with the views of families who use those services. NHS Sefton would like to thank those members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for their input into this work programme and their membership of the Oversight Group, which provided scrutiny to the work. 'Improving Children's Health Service in North Sefton' was shared with key stakeholders and their views were also considered by the NHS Sefton Board alongside the report. As well as committing to the further development of the hub, the NHS Sefton Board agreed that, based on the evidence and the views presented to them, care for minor injuries should continue to be provided through existing services.

3) Transforming Community Services

Final preparations are taking place to transfer NHS Sefton's Community Health Services to Liverpool Community Health NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, which will become an integrated care organisation. A number of workstreams have been operating across all three organisations to ensure the smooth transfer of services. This process is on track to be completed by March 31st 2011. As part of this process, those GP practices run by NHS Sefton CHS will temporarily transfer to Liverpool. Some of these practices wish to become a Social Enterprise, and have developed a business case which needs to be assessed by NHS Sefton and the Strategic Health Authority before it can be given the go ahead. The transfer will not change the way patients access services, and they can still expect the same high quality care they have always received in Sefton. In the future, we expect this change to lead to even better services, as providers work together in a more integrated way for the benefit of local people.

4) NHS Sefton's Quality Strategy – one year on

An update on NHS Sefton's Quality Strategy highlights the good work going on across Sefton over the past year. The report looks at developments in the key areas of safety, effectiveness and patient experience, since the strategy was launched in 2009. Along with those services NHS provides directly, the update also includes achievements of provider organisations. Some of the key developments include:

- Continued development of a Quality Board with broad membership including public representation
- Strengthening the Quality Programme team
- Supporting dental practices to improve quality and clinical governance – including support to ensure that all are on track to register with the Care Quality Commission by the 1st April
- Continued community pharmacy quality visits
- Appointed a General Practitioner Quality lead
- Worked with GPs and the GP Quality lead to develop a Balanced Score Card – enabling practices to monitor how well they are performing against quality targets

- Undertaken an end to end Patient Experience Project with a small number of patients and their families with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease that will help us to improve services in the future
- Supported acute providers in the delivery of same sex accommodation – NHS Sefton hosts the new Cheshire and Merseyside Lead for Privacy and Dignity

The report is available to download from www.sefton.nhs.uk and contains examples of how the local NHS is working together to improve quality – from reducing healthcare acquired infections to improving patient food.

5) Views sought on improvements to gynaecology services

Patients across North Merseyside are being asked for their views on changes to gynaecology services. Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust provides gynaecology services from two sites – the main Liverpool Women's Hospital site on Crown Street in Liverpool city centre, and Aintree Hospital. Under the changes, Aintree-based services for Liverpool Women's day patients will move to a new modern facility within the same site. Meanwhile, women who need to stay in overnight will now only be treated at the specialist hospital on Crown Street. The engagement process around the changes is being led by the Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) for Liverpool, Sefton and Knowsley. By delivering all major gynaecology surgery at their Crown Street site, Liverpool Women's Hospital will be able to ensure that women have access to the very best medical expertise and equipment. The changes also mean that women who visit Aintree as outpatients will be able to enjoy improved surroundings, offering greater privacy and dignity. The engagement process runs until 11th March. People can read about the changes in full – and submit their comments – at www.liverpoolpct.nhs.uk. In addition, three public engagement meetings will be taking place during the next few weeks:

- **Liverpool PCT** public meeting: Monday 28th February (5pm to 7pm) at the Isla Gladstone Conservatory, Stanley Park, Anfield, L4 0TD
- **NHS Knowsley** public meeting: Tuesday 1st March (10am to 11am) at The Osprey Room, Kirkby Civic Suite, Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby, L32 8XY
- **NHS Sefton** public meeting: Wednesday 9th March (4.30pm to 6pm) Bootle Town Hall, Oriol Road, Bootle, L20 7AE

For more details, or if you require more information about the changes, please contact: Diane Armstrong, Stakeholder Engagement Manager at Liverpool PCT, on 0151 296 7444 or at diane.armstrong@liverpoolpct.nhs.uk.

6) New arrivals in Sefton

Sefton is celebrating the graduation of 21 local women as Breast Start Peer Mentors. They are now qualified as La Leche League Peer Counsellors and will work alongside Breastfeeding Support Workers and health professionals to promote and support breastfeeding in Sefton. The aim of the breast start peer mentor programme is to train local mums who have had a positive breastfeeding experience. They then provide informal parent to parent support. Sefton's breast start peer mentor programme was established to ensure all mums have the support that they need to be able to breastfeed, so that they have the opportunity to give their babies the very best start in life. The mentors are one of many Sefton initiatives supporting the 'Breast Milk, It's Amazing'

campaign which was launched in the summer by NHS Sefton, NHS Knowlsey, NHS Wirral and Liverpool PCT in response to figures that showed mums on Merseyside were the least likely to breastfeed in the UK. As well as working to improve breastfeeding rates the campaign is also raising awareness of the health benefits that breastfeeding has for both for mothers and babies.

7) Mental health strategy

A new cross government mental health outcomes strategy, called 'No health without mental health' was published in February. It recognises the urgent need for co-ordinated action to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the population year on year. Pat Nicholl, NHS Sefton's Deputy Head of Health Improvement, said: "The title demonstrates the shift in government thinking and puts mental health on an equal level with physical health." Mental health problems affect one in four of us at some time in our lives. The strategy will see local and national organisations working together to promote the importance of good mental health and challenging negative attitudes in society. Visit www.dh.gov.uk/mentalhealthstrategy for the strategy and supporting documents.

8) Campaign plans bold delivery

'Quit for two', the latest NHS Sefton Health Promotion Team campaign has been launched, to reduce the number of women smoking during pregnancy. It aims to increase awareness of the harm to both mother and baby posed by smoking in pregnancy and help NHS Sefton meet the target to reduce the number of women smoking at delivery from 16.5% to 10% by April 2013. It will promote the work of SUPPORT, NHS Sefton's local stop smoking service, which offers dedicated help for pregnant women who want to quit. Research shows you are more likely to stop and quit for good if you do it with SUPPORT. In Sefton, the number of women accessing SUPPORT has risen and last year 106 pregnant women quit with SUPPORT and changed theirs and their baby's lives. For more information on SUPPORT and the smoking in pregnancy service call Healthy Sefton on 0300 100 1000.

9) Health Checks

More than 4000 Sefton residents have received free health checks at a local community pharmacy. Residents aged 40 to 74 simply call Healthy Sefton 0300 100 1000 to see if they are eligible and find their nearest participating pharmacy. The health checks for coronary heart disease and diabetes continue to run throughout the borough. So, Sefton residents who have not already been diagnosed with heart disease or diabetes can call Healthy Sefton 0300 100 1000. As part of the healthy lifestyle initiative, if you book a check with your pharmacy you will each receive a £5 fruit and vegetable voucher to use at your local fruit and vegetable coop or local greengrocer.

10) Healthy Sefton is now online

Now Sefton residents and health professionals can go on line to find out more about a range of healthy lifestyle services and activities offered in the borough. As well as phoning 0300 100 1000 people can also visit

<http://www.healthysefton.nhs.uk/> to find out about the following services they can be signposted to:

- Breastfeeding Support
- Chlamydia Screening
- Lifestyle Checks
- Positive Mental Wellbeing
- Physical Activity
- Sensible Drinking
- Stop Smoking
- Weight Management and Healthy Eating

Sefton residents with queries about any aspect of their health or health services should call PALS, our dedicated Patient Advice and Liaison Service, on 0800 218 2333

Our website www.sefton.nhs.uk contains a wealth of information about local community health services, along with advice about improving your health and wellbeing

**Looking Local is our digital TV health information service for Sefton. Virgin Media and many interactive cable and digital TV viewers can access Looking Local by pressing the 'interactive' button. On Sky, go to channel 539 and press the red button. Access Looking Local online or via a web-enabled mobile phone at www.lookinglocal.gov.uk/nhssefton
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