

**Scrutiny Briefing Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
(Health and Social Care)

**Date of Meeting:** 3 March 2015

**Subject:** Report of Fiona Clark, Chief Officer

**Organisation:** NHS South Sefton CCG and NHS Southport and Formby CCG

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## **Purpose/Summary**

To provide members of the committee with an update about the work of NHS South Sefton CCG and NHS Southport and Formby CCG.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) are requested to receive this report.



South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group  
Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group

## **Update for Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) March 2015**

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

### **Shaping Sefton – new models of care**

In early February around 200 health and social care professionals from across the borough came together for the first in a series of sessions organised by Sefton's Health and Wellbeing Board. The events – involving frontline staff, clinicians, other professionals and senior leaders – will support organisations in shaping and delivering their collective vision for better, more integrated care in Sefton. The sessions are being supported by the King's Fund, the independent think tank working to improve health and health care in England, and this first event was opened by its chief executive, Prof Chris Ham. He set out the case for change in Sefton across the whole health and social care system in order to address the demands of an ageing population and increasing numbers of people with multiple and complex long term conditions. Research by the King's Fund evidences the benefits - in particular to the experience of patients, their families and carers – of organisations and services working together, which makes a compelling case for care to be co-ordinated around the needs of people and populations. Shaping Sefton builds on earlier work of the Health and Wellbeing Board about how we can achieve this locally. We will update the committee as this work progresses.

### **Decision on Out of Hours Pharmacy**

The Out of Hours Pharmacy at Litherland Town Hall is set to close at the end of March 2015 and it will be replaced with a new system to make sure people can still get any urgent medicines they need after seeing an out of hours doctor at the Hatton Hill Road health centre. It follows a thorough review of this service, prompted by a decline in its function over the past 12 months. The Out of Hours Pharmacy is restricted to patients using the GP Out of Hours (OOH) service, dispensing relatively small amounts of medicines, which is fewer than 1% of all medicines dispensed across Sefton. Around 3,600 people attend the GP OOH service each year and not all of these will need a prescription. Because of its links to the GP OOH service, the Out of Hours Pharmacy also has much shorter opening times than regular high street chemists. A great deal has changed since the Out of Hours Pharmacy was set up and now there is little or no need for such a small and restricted service. These days there are plenty of chemists nearby that closely match the opening times of the Out of Hours Pharmacy late at night and at weekends. A public

consultation about the future of the Out of Hours Pharmacy was included in the review. Over 60% of people questioned thought the closure of the service would cause them little or no 'inconvenience' if they had to travel to another chemist and around 80% thought the NHS should target its money on more priority services. We know that a number of respondents appreciate the convenience of the service and as a result of their feedback, we have developed an alternative system to make sure people still have access to the medicines they need during the out of hours period. So, when other local chemists are closed, a wraparound GP prescribing and supply system will mean that doctors from the GP OOH service will supply medications directly to patients during their consultation. This already happens when people attending the GP OOH service need medicines after 11pm when the Out of Hours Pharmacy is closed. In addition, anyone who finds it difficult to travel to an alternative chemist will also be eligible for the wraparound GP prescribing and supply system throughout the entire out of hours period, so they are not disadvantaged by this decision. Governing Body members from NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG agreed the decision at their meetings in January 2015, after receiving assurances that appropriate alternatives would be put in place for all patients who might be affected by the service's closure. The alternative wraparound GP prescribing and supply service will be regularly reviewed to ensure patients continue to get their prescriptions when they need them during the out of hours period.

### **Update on breast care services for Southport and Formby patients**

NHS Southport and Formby CCG and NHS West Lancashire CCG are currently collating all the views submitted to them about local breast care services. Between mid January to late February, patients, carers, support groups and other interested parties were asked for their experience of these services at the range of local hospitals where people can choose to be treated. As well as attending a number of events across the area to gain views, the CCGs spoke directly to breast care patients and invited their feedback at a number of different out patient clinics during the period. It comes after Southport & Ormskirk Hospital's decision to close its breast care service to new patients from 1 September 2014 because it could no longer provide the service safely due to recruitment issues. A number of existing patients remain in the care of Southport & Ormskirk and the hospital trust has assured the CCGs that their care continues to be timely and appropriate. Alongside this, the CCGs have been examining which aspects of breast care could continue to be provided at the Southport & Ormskirk sites, based on clinical effectiveness and patient safety to ensure best practice and outcomes for patients. The views and experiences of local residents collected during the engagement exercise will also feed into this work, and the CCGs will be working with local providers of breast care over the coming months to ensure safe and sustainable services for the future.