

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

**Date of Meeting:** 25 February 2020

**Subject:** Update Report of Fiona Taylor, 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 (Adult Social Care and Health) are requested to receive this report.

## **Update for Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) February 2020**

*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 317 8456.*

### **Potential merger with CCGs in North Merseyside**

In February both CCG governing bodies were asked to consider whether they should explore possibly merging with neighbouring commissioners in Knowsley and Liverpool to identify opportunities to strengthen local commissioning arrangements in health for the benefit of our residents. This move would be in line with the NHS Long Term Plan and would additionally support CCGs to achieve a required 20% reduction in running costs. A paper presented to each governing body started to describe the benefits of a possible merger, a preferred option to bring together the four North Merseyside CCGs and next steps, including starting to speak with partners about any possible changes to commissioning arrangements. Whilst such a change would not formally require a consultation, it is essential as part of the approval process, key stakeholders, including CCG memberships, staff, local authorities, local medical committees and Healthwatch organisations, support such proposals. These discussions will inform a final proposal for a preferred recommendation to be made by CCG governing bodies to the CCGs members in March 2020. A full copy of the paper is available in the February governing body meeting pack, which can be found on each CCG website using the details at the end of this report.

### **Dil welcomed to Governing Body**

Dil Daly was officially welcomed as the new NHS Southport and Formby CCG lay representative for public involvement at the February Governing Body meeting. Dil has been chief executive of Age Concern Liverpool and Sefton for a number of years. His previous roles include sales engineer with an electronics company in Buckinghamshire, youth service literacy project manager in Sheffield, education officer in a London based older people's charity, community services manager at Age Concern Westminster and the chief officer at Age Concern Redbridge in East London. The next Governing Body meetings for both CCGs take place in April. Anyone wishing to attend is asked to contact 0151 317 8456 to book their place. These meetings are held in public and start at 1pm on the dates and at the venues below:

- NHS Southport and Formby CCG – Wednesday 1 April, Family Life Centre, Ash St, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 6JH
- NHS South Sefton CCG - Thursday 2 April, 3rd floor boardroom, Merton House, Stanley Rd, Bootle, L20 3DL

## **Women urged to attend their cervical screening**

During Cervical Cancer Prevention Week 2020 (20-26 January) health professionals from both CCGs were reminding women about the importance of attending their cervical screening – known as a smear test. Cervical cancer affects around 3,000 women in the UK every year, making it the most common form of cancer for women under the age of 35.

According to Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust, 75 per cent of these cases can be prevented through testing. Screening is the best way to test for human papillomavirus (HPV). If the test comes back positive for HPV, the sample will then be tested for abnormal cells. If left untreated, abnormal cells can develop into cervical cancer.

In 2018-2019, only 70.4 per cent of women aged 25-49 in south Sefton attended their cervical screenings after receiving their invitation letter and this figure was slightly higher for Southport and Formby at 73.45 per cent. Health leaders are keen for more women to take up the offer. Women aged 25 to 49 are offered screening every three years, and 50 to 64 year olds are screened every five years.

Thanks to the GP Extra and 7 Day GP services, local residents can book to have their smear test carried out by a practice nurse on a weekday evening (5-8pm) or, weekend including bank holidays (10am-1pm), making it easier for those who are busy during the day to attend their screening. These appointments can be booked via residents' regular GP practices.

For more information on cervical cancer and what the screening test involves, you can visit [www.nhs.uk/cervicalcancer](http://www.nhs.uk/cervicalcancer) More information on GP extended access service appointments is available from each CCG website using the details at the end of this briefing or via people's GP practices.

## **Children's mental health week**

Together with Sefton Council, the CCGs supported children's mental health week in early February, by encouraging them to talk to their parents or carers about their mental health and to seek support from local services.

According to the Mental Health Foundation, one in 10 young people will experience a mental health condition, which is why early help is recognised to be of utmost importance. Helping young people to get the support and treatment they need before their difficulties become even more challenging, can really improve their chances of recovery and prevent them from bringing these problems into adulthood.

In Sefton, there are a number of services available to children and young people who need support. Those aged 11 to 18 in the borough have access to an online counselling and emotional wellbeing platform called 'Kooth' that the council and CCGs jointly commission. This provides free and anonymous mental health and wellbeing support to young people.

Children and young people, and their families and carers, with concerns about emotional and mental wellbeing can also speak with their GP or another professional (like school nurse, social worker, health visitor or teacher) for help and advice.

Kooth can be accessed at [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

