

Strategic Commissioning Briefing

3rd September 2019, Wigan Life Centre

NOTES

Meeting led by Frank Costello, Governing Body member with responsibility for Patient & Public Involvement.

1. Organisational and relationship changes:

- Professor Craig Harris is the new Managing Director of Wigan Borough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- Frank's initial discussions with Professor Harris are encouraging and he clearly values engagement and equalities work.
- Professor Harris may want to come and meet our patient representatives at a future meeting.
- Alison McKenzie-Folan is the new Chief Executive of Wigan Council.
- Frank has also met with Alison recently and she wants the CCG and Council to work together on engagement and use our collective resources.

2. Integrated Commissioning Committee (ICC) and Patient Voices:

- The CCG and Wigan Council combining health and social care budgets.
- The Integrated Commissioning Committee (ICC) is a purchasing committee where the budget lies.
- The ICC will bring into play the wider determinants of health, e.g. education, housing, environment.
- The CCG has delegated a considerable proportion of our budget to the ICC and Wigan Council has done the same.
- More than £1 billion combined to support health and social care – increasingly working together.
- The ICC is Chaired alternately by Dr Dalton, CCG Chair and Cllr David Molyneux, Council Leader. There are then 4 GPs from the CCG and 4 Council Cabinet Members on the ICC + support from various officers.
- Suggested change is that Frank is part of the ICC to represent the views of patients/residents as he does with CCG Governing Body.
- Frank is positive about the future of engagement and patient voices within the new structures.

- We still have two patient representatives on the CCGs Primary Care Committee.

3. Funding challenges:

- Frank attended the CCGs Finance Committee on 2nd September 2019.
- As a health economy we have been “living beyond our means” financially for some time, e.g. referral rates from GPs to hospitals are higher than average.
- The Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership has expressed some concern about our current financial position and is seeking assurances from our Governing Body about our plans to address the situation.
- The finance teams from the CCG, Wigan Council and Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust (WWL) are discussing the situation and looking at our resources as a whole.
- Wigan Council is not bound by the same financial regulations as NHS, they can have reserves. To balance the books last year the CCG borrowed money and then had to pay it back (which we did).
- It is important for us now to address the underlying issues around finances.
- We have set up advice and guidance processes to help manage referrals better between GP practices and hospitals.
- We have a £27 million Quality Improvement programme.
- WWL has a cost improvement programme around £14/15 million.
- Added together, the local health economy has to find savings of £40 million.
- There was a discussion around the need for much bigger emphasis on self-management.
- We no longer have a block contract with WWL, the agreed contract value for 2019/2020 is £199 million (£290 million of the CCGs whole spend goes to hospitals).
- We are seeing willingness for different parts of the system to work together.

Primary Care Developments:

- We have 60 practices of which 59 have been rated good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).
- We have 1 practice, Dr Anis in Golborne which was rated Inadequate by the CQC. The CCG is working with the practice and CQC, through our Primary Care Committee to take the situation forward.
- Frank was pleased to report that some of our GP practice estate is going to be developed and will ask Jonathan Kerry for more information around this to share with patient groups.

Service delivery issues:

- Some members in the room have been picking up problems again around Ear Care Services.
- Community Services moved under WWL in April 2019. Some of the WWL Governors in attendance informed us that they have spoken to some of the community staff and pick up a sense of confidence that they feel things are going the right way now they are under WWL.
- There has been a question raised about Neuro-rehabilitation services which moved from Leigh Infirmary to Trafford General Hospital and we will obtain an update.

Any other issues:

- Members of the group would like an update on the Urgent Treatment Centre and where we are up to around proposals to develop a service in Leigh.
- A member raised concern about the Patient Participation Group (PPG) system and what the CCG is doing about practices that don't have a group. There was a suggestion that some of our patient representatives could act as Lay Auditors around this.
- We have been asked to find out whether there is still a retinopathy services running at Leigh Infirmary.
- WWL Governors are looking into the "Improving Specialist Care" programme being led by Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership. They have some concerns if there are proposals to move some services out of WWL and if so what process will be followed.

Actions:

1. The group would like a diagram around different committees/bodies, how they are constituted and where people fit.
2. Jonathan Kerry information around GP practice estate development.
3. Obtain an update on Neuro-rehabilitation services.
4. Obtain an update on Urgent Treatment Centre.
5. Raise concerns about PPGs to Primary Care Team.
6. Check status of Retinopathy Service.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 21st January 2019, 10am – 11am, Leigh