

Central Bedfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Primary Care in Central Bedfordshire

Introduction

The population in Central Bedfordshire is increasing and growing older, which provides challenges in providing the right care for communities locally. With the introduction of the GP Five Year Forward View, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has taken a fresh look at primary care in Central Bedfordshire to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of our communities.

This paper provides an update on the care provided locally and the plans we have in place to ensure our patients continue to receive quality care in Central Bedfordshire.

What does Primary Care look like in Central Bedfordshire?

In Central Bedfordshire Localities, there are 27 General Practices. Recently, we have undertaken a process to re-procure services, where contracts are coming to an end. This includes:

- **Arlesey** – in April, following the procurement process, the contract was awarded again to the Sunnyhill Healthcare CIC.
- **Chiltern Hills** – following consultation this small practice in Dunstable was closed and the list dispersed to neighbouring practices.

Premises developments

Work is also underway to develop premises in Central Bedfordshire.

STP Capital Scheme bids have been submitted for Integrated Health and Social Care Hubs in both Biggleswade and Dunstable.

Funding has been made available via the One Public Estate to scope options for hubs in the West Mid Beds, Houghton Regis and Leighton Buzzard areas.

Work is progressing with the Kings Road surgery in Sandy to enable them to move by the end of the year to newly refurbished premises.

Initial scoping for a Dunstable hub is underway.

Small refurbishments to premises in Ampthill have been approved to provide additional capacity in an area of population growth where the practices had no additional space.

The CCG recently responded to the CBC LDP and are working closely with those practices where we know already that there will be significant population growth in the coming years.



Extended Access

From April 2019 NHSE have asked that all CCGs across the country offer extended access (weekday evenings until 8pm, early mornings and weekends) to GP services. In Central Bedfordshire we have already started those discussions with our practices and are in the early stages of seeking patient views and working with our practices to plan how best we can deliver this. We hope to be in a position where we can start to pilot a service during next year.

Cluster and Transformation Projects

Central Bedfordshire Localities applied for funding for transformation bids. Together they have been successful in securing over £230,000 funding for a range of projects. The summary below provides some details of the initiatives that they are introducing that will improve access to GPs and reduce the numbers of patients needing to attend hospital.

West Mid Beds (population = 61,000): Oliver Street; Greensand; Flitwick; Houghton Close; Asplands; Barton	Frail & Elderly Home visiting <i>Development of home visiting service for frail elderly patients across the Locality which will cover Care Homes and over 65 frail elderly</i>	1 st July 2017
Ivel Valley: (population = 92,000); Sandy Health Centre; Ivel Medical Centre; Saffron Health; Greensands Medical; Dr Gledhill; Dr Collins; Larksfield; Arlesey Medical Centre; Shefford	Frail & Elderly Home visiting <i>Care Home/Frail elderly visiting service being mobilised to provide enhanced ongoing education of care home staff, a pro-active case management programme and an acute intervention service in each Care Home in Ivel Valley</i>	1 st July 2017
Chiltern Vale: (population = 81,000); Kirby Road; Caddington; Priory Gardens; West Street; Houghton Regis; Wheatfield; Kingsbury Court; Eastgate; Toddington	Frail & Elderly Case Management <i>Alignment of MDT working closer with Practice Matrons and practice OD (organisational development) to future plan as part of Primary Care Home</i>	1 st July 2017
Leighton Buzzard (population = 48,000): Leighton Road; Basset Road; Salisbury House:	Primary Care Home community collaboration <i>Development of Primary Care Home model in Locality, with aim of working more collaboratively to achieve an integrated workforce, developing skills and optimising</i>	1 st July 2017

	<i>partnerships across primary, secondary, community, social care, patient representatives and voluntary sector.</i> <i>Early focus of Primary Care Home model development will be on frail elderly patients.</i>	
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As part of this process all four Localities have applied for, and been accepted as, NAPC Primary Care Home Communities of Practice. This enables them to access additional support to transform how they work and access learning and support from other sites across the country.

Out of Hospital Strategy

Further collaborative work is planned with the practices to support the delivery of the Out of Hospital Strategy which has recently been approved by BCCG Governing Body and supported by CBC Transformation Board, to ensure primary care is sustainable for the future.

The Out of Hospital Strategy will support further integration between health and social care for example in developing multi-disciplinary health and social care teams wrapped around clusters of practices, and integrated discharge teams in hospitals supporting people to be discharged from hospital when medically fit but who may still need support at home.

BCCG is also procuring a new community health services contract which will be based on the delivery of outcomes. The new contract will start on 1st April 2018 and will underpin a transformation of community services to support delivery of high quality, sustainable services and delivery of the GP Five Year Forward View.