

Local Members' Interest
n/a

Health Select Committee – 3 February 2020

Staffordshire CCGs' Accountable Officer Report

Recommendation

1. For the Committee to question, discuss, consider and comment the report

Report of Accountable Officer, Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups

Summary

What is the Select Committee being asked to do and why?

For the Committee to question, discuss and consider the report of the Accountable Officer of the five Staffordshire CCGs.

Report

Background

The Chair of the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee wrote to Marcus Warnes, Accountable Officer of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent CCGs on December 20 2019, this letter is attached to the agenda.

Marcus Warnes responded to the letter on December 23 2019, this letter is attached to the agenda.

Non-merger of CCGs and their Commissioning Intentions

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent CCGs voted on whether to merge in October 2019. Five out of the six CCGs voted against the merger, since then the CCGs have been formulating the future direction

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent CCGs intend to continue the journey towards the vision of becoming a strategic commissioner within an Integrated Care System (ICS) by developing a strategic commissioning function and three locality based divisions which align with and support the development of three integrated care partnerships in the north,

south-east and south-west of the ICS area. The CCGs and the broader system are signed up to this vision.

Our commissioning intentions are in line with the Long Term Plan for the NHS, of which our local plan will be published in the spring. This will mean the commissioning of services will be aligned to ensure health inequalities are addressed and equity in outcome across the County. This may mean at times there will be local sensitivities in commissioning decisions but where appropriate doing things once instead of six times with an aim reduce unwarranted variation.

We are currently waiting the publication of the Operating Framework which will give us further clarification.

Scrutiny of Out of County Health Provision

Over half of the CCGs' acute activity is with hospitals outside of the boundaries of Staffordshire and there are well developed contracts and systems in place, to monitor quality and performance as with any other NHS contract.

A comprehensive structure is in place to assure performance of all contracts, including non STP providers (out of area contracts). This structure is accountable to the Governing Bodies via Finance and Performance Committee, and comprises:-

Locality Multi-Disciplinary Teams

Bi-weekly meetings led by respective Managing Director for locally provider focussed MDTs to progress key actions and report the Divisional Managing Directors

Financial Triangulation (Monthly)

Review of non STP acute portfolio against data reported in monthly day 1-5 financial process to triangulate and agree forecast positions and current challenges / contract issues.

Contract Management Executive Team

Monthly leadership meeting comprising all functions of the CCG and key personnel from the Midlands and Lancashire CSU. The group review overall CCG wide performance, risks, trends and issues and prioritise resource and action to mitigate and manage risks.

Contract Steering Group

Monthly senior leadership group chaired by Director of Commissioning and Operations that is accountable to Finance and Performance Committee for transacting and overseeing overall provider strategy and delivery of CCG priorities, including negotiation of contracts.

The quality team work with the lead commissioners attend Clinical Quality Review Meetings, which scrutinise the deliverables under section 4 and 6 of the NHS contract and report this on a monthly basis to the Quality Committees in Common and then through to

Governing Bodies, taking appropriate action to ensure quality and to safeguard our patients.

GP Concerns over Integrated Care Proposals

It is our aim to encourage providers to come together to form ICPs that are capable of holding some form of shared contracting arrangement that allows the strategic commissioner to focus on outcomes and gives the providers the freedom and autonomy to develop and deliver services to meet those outcomes.

This work is currently being coordinated on behalf of the system by Peter Axon, Chief Executive of North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust, who is also the SRO of the STP OD work stream.

The first ICP development workshop was held on 26th November 2019 and this involved representatives of General Practice and Primary Care Networks (PCNs). There are further workshops planned in order to develop this work at pace.

In terms of the commissioning of General Practice, this is currently delegated to the CCGs and cannot be doubly delegated so therefore will remain part of the Strategic Commissioner responsibilities.

Link to Trust's or Shared Strategic Objectives – Governing Bodies Strategic Objectives

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity - none

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Appendices/Background papers

Letter to Accountable Officer, Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups
Response from Accountable Officer, Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups