

Transforming Community Services Briefing for Derby Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Introduction

Transforming Community Services (TCS) is a change programme for the delivery of community health care services designed to promote high quality standards of care.

The TCS programme includes a number of initiatives which have been designed to help staff provide high quality evidence-based care, and achieve positive outcomes for the community they serve. These include:

- strengthening clinical skills, leadership and quality
- embedding new evidence-based child health promotion
- developing evidence-based practice and pathways
- a national contract for community services
- a framework to pilot metrics and currencies and support local development

In addition, under TCS, every Primary Care Trust in England will cease to be a direct provider of community services such as district nursing and health visiting. PCTs will, however, continue to be responsible for planning and commissioning health care provision in their area, contracting with different providers to deliver services.

Development of Clinical Pathways

Derby City has developed a complete range of service specifications which detail the current service provision as part of the community contract. The PCT has also undertaken a prioritisation process to determine the areas of community services which will be the focus of the development work on pathways. Work is currently underway to implement transformational change on a number of pathways including:

Alcohol dependency services

Diabetes

Intermediate care

Stroke rehabilitation

End of life care

Specialist and Universal Children's services

Psychological therapies

The involvement of staff and patients in the development of these pathways is considered critical to their success.

Similar to NHS Derbyshire County, NHS Derby City is also currently reviewing the provision of Out of Hours and Primary Care walk-in services within the City. As part of this review, we are looking at locations where services are currently provided and whether there is any scope to move or co-locate any of these services.

PCT provider services restructuring

Since April 2009, PCTs have been required to have separate commissioning and provider arms, with the commissioning arm having a contractual relationship with their provider arm. As a next step, the NHS Operating Framework 2010/11 made it clear that PCTs must agree with SHAs proposals for the future organisational structure of all current PCT provided community services.

NHS Derby City has worked with partner organisations to develop an initial proposal for the future organisational form of its provider arm. This proposal has been assessed against Department of Health criteria for quality, affordability and sustainability. In summary, this proposal is for the majority of adult services to vertically integrate with Derby Hospitals Foundation Trust. A small number of services will be market tested and the Family Nurse Partnership is pursuing the right to request Social Enterprise. Following recent guidance, agreement has been reached with Local Authority colleagues to revisit the plan for Children's services.

Regular staff bulletins and briefing sessions have been held to keep staff involved in the proposed changes.

Due to the change in Government it is acknowledged that there may be changes to policy with regard to TCS and this plan remains as a proposed way forward at this stage. Further information, including next steps, will be brought to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee when the Department of Health issues further guidance for PCTs.