

The Better Healthcare Programme

for Banbury and surrounding areas



Newsletter

Issue 16

21 September 2009

Welcome to the September newsletter. This is an update on the future plans for the Horton General Hospital; we hope you find it informative and interesting. Through this newsletter we hope to keep all stakeholders[†] updated on progress on a regular basis. On the PCT website you will find more information including Programme Board papers, copies of the reports published by the Independent Reconfiguration Panel and the PCT and previous issues of this newsletter.

Next Steps

During September 2009 feasibility groups will be considering how to implement the ideas from the *Invitation to Innovate (i2i)*, taking account of key issues flagged up through the work of the theme groups.

The groups are made up from the Community Partnership Forum and the Programme Board. These people are joined by clinicians representing the Oxford Radcliffe's (ORH) Paediatric, Maternity, Emergency and General Surgery services. Input from local GPs, Horton General Hospital (HGH) staff and councillors has been essential to the discussions.

The discussions focus on the practicalities of the ideas and what is needed to implement them. The outcome of this work will be pulled together to provide a description of the Programme's vision for the future of the HGH. Part of this vision will be to outline how patients will benefit from developing sustainable services at the hospital.

The feasibility stage of the *i2i* was launched on the 3 September. Two more meetings have been set up for the groups to develop their work. All groups will then come together again on the 30 September to consider and prepare recommendations for the Programme Board meeting on 13 October.

Programme Decision Making

To be able to show that the Programme has delivered the recommendations of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel, the

Programme will need to follow a specific order for decision making.

This order starts with a presentation on the 13 October to the Programme Board to outline the vision for the HGH and include options for implementing sustainable changes to services.

The next step is for the Programme Board to make a recommendation to be considered by both the ORH and PCT Boards. This recommendation will be tested at a meeting of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 November and then presented to the PCT Board meeting on 26 November.

Contingency planning at the ORH

The ORH is reviewing its contingency plans. These are plans for how services would manage in the event of a disaster or staffing emergency: the aim is to continue to provide services for patients. A time when the trust has had to implement such plans is when there was a flood at HGH's theatres. Some theatre services were temporarily provided from Oxford until the theatres reopened.

Service plans will be discussed with groups including patients, staff and local authorities. One key plan is for Paediatrics. This covers what would happen if there were not enough staff to provide a safe service at HGH. In an extreme situation, where all options had been tried, the service would be temporarily provided from Oxford. Plans would include how and when the service would reopen.

Welcome to ...

Cariad Hazard has joined the team following a 10 month placement at the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals. Cariad is an NHS Graduate Management Trainee and has chosen to spend the next 12 months working with the Community Partnership Forum and developing into a wider role with the BHP and PCT. She has a real enthusiasm for engagement and hopes to learn a lot from all involved with the programme.

LINKs

Oxfordshire LINK gives people the opportunity to influence local health and social care services. LINK is run by local individuals and groups and its role is to find out what people want and to monitor local services.

A meeting on **1 October, 10.00-12.00 at West Bar Surgery in Banbury** will include the topic *Health and Social Care in North Oxfordshire*. If you would like to find out more or to book a place please call Oxfordshire LINK on 01993 862855 or email:

OxfordshireLink@makesachange.org.uk

Goodbye and Thank You

To **Martin Harris**, retired GP, of the Community Partnership Forum. Martin's input to the work of the forum has been very important and we are currently seeking another local GP to take his place. Martin is now off to Africa where he will spend the next few months working in a health clinic in what he describes as the 'deepest bush'.

And to **Donna Hakes** of the Programme Board. Donna has been our link to Northamptonshire PCT. Such links have been essential to the Better Healthcare Programme in ensuring that all the key organisations, including local councils, hospitals and PCTs, are in agreement with the aims of the Programme.

Important Dates for the Diary

Community Partnership Forum

Next meeting is on 29 September 2009, 1000 - 1200, River Cherwell Room, Bodicote House

The meeting will be addressed by two local Paediatricians to talk about: *Safety and Accessibility Issues for the Paediatric Service at the Horton General Hospital*.

Better Healthcare Programme Board

The date of the November meeting has been changed to 17 November.

The October date remains the same: 13 October 1000-1200, Council Chambers, Bodicote House.

Contact us: If you would like further information or have any questions about the information in this newsletter please contact, Rachel Jeacock.

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† This newsletter is distributed to the following stakeholders: Local NHS staff, local GPs, Pharmacies, Dentists, Opticians, local Schools, Parish Councillors, local MPs, local NHS trusts (including the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust), neighbouring PCTs, Banbury Town Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Cherwell and West Oxfordshire District Councils, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire local authorities, the Local Practice Based Commissioning Consortia, the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board, South Central Strategic Health Authority, Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, patients and public in the Banbury locality – including the interim LINKs organisation (Local Involvement Networks), relevant community and voluntary groups and the media.

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