

West Norfolk CCG Patient and Stakeholder

Newsletter

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NHS West Norfolk CCG welcomes two new Governing Body members



NHS West Norfolk CCG has appointed two new members onto its Governing Body, Mrs Michelle Barry and Dr Tina Ariffin.

Michelle is a fee based tribunal judge hearing Social Welfare Benefits, Special Educational Needs and Court of Protection appeals. She has many years of experience of working alongside the most vulnerable. She has been an Educational Trust appointed school governor for the last two years of two (soon to become three) local schools and is the Special Educational Needs, Looked After Children and staff wellbeing appointed governor. Michelle is also an accredited mediator. She joins West Norfolk CCG as a lay member for the Governing Body.

Dr Ian Mack, Chair of the CCG said: "I am delighted that the CCG Governing Body will be strengthened further by the appointment of Mrs Michelle Barry as an additional Lay member. Michelle brings a wealth of experience in decision making and public service which will be very valuable as West Norfolk CCG goes forward. The appointment will also ensure greater Lay involvement in the Committees of the Governing Body, including Primary Care, as the CCG takes on more responsibility for the oversight and development of General Practice in West Norfolk".

Dr Tina Ariffin joins the Governing Body as a GP member from 1st April. She graduated from the Royal Free Hospital in London where as part of her training, she had a posting in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn. She continued to spend some of her junior doctor training there as well as at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital before going on to complete her GP training in Nottingham.

Dr Ariffin returned to Norfolk to work at the Terrington St John Surgery and is presently a GP partner at the Southgates Medical Centre in King's Lynn. She has also spent several years working as the lead in the Acute GP Service, which later developed into the Ambulatory Emergency Care at the QEH. Through this, she has gained extensive experience of issues affecting GPs and the wider health care community. She has particular experience with emergency care and Acute Medicine and has unique insight into issues affecting the interface between primary and secondary care. Dr Ariffin is committed to maintaining and developing appropriate NHS services for the local community.

Dr Mack said: "Dr Ariffin is an experienced local GP who also has considerable knowledge and expertise from her time working in Acute Medicine at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, providing same day urgent assessment and treatment. As we continue to work ever more closely with the hospital to ensure care of people in West Norfolk is closely linked between GP practices and the hospital, she will be a key member of our team in helping to develop this relationship and improve clinical care".



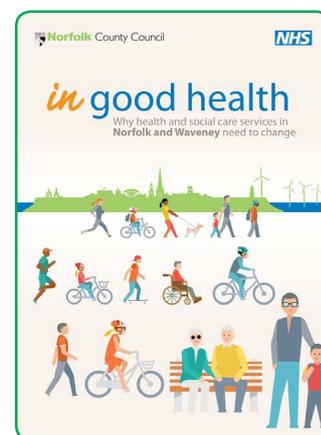
West Norfolk CCG's Governing Body is comprised of the Chair who is a GP from one of our 21 member GP practices in the West Norfolk area, Chief Officer, Chief Financial Officer, six local GPs, a secondary care doctor, registered nurse and three lay members.

The Governing Body is responsible for monitoring the performance and quality improvement of our local healthcare providers, and approving commissioning and engagement plans. The Governing Body acts on behalf of the membership of the CCG, local GP practices.

Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Organisations (VCSE) Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) Engagement Events

Representatives from Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Organisations (VCSE) recently met in King's Lynn to find out more about the Norfolk and Waveney Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

VCSE organisations are essential for helping people to live well. From luncheon clubs and Good Neighbour Schemes to housing support and critical advice provision VCSE services have a vital role now and are likely to be even more important in the future. Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and Norfolk County Council (NCC) are working with Community Action Norfolk to explore how CCGs, NCC and voluntary and community organisations can work together to improve the health of residents and reduce the barriers to working together.



Three events were hosted in Norfolk in March as an opportunity to:

- Get up to speed with the Sustainability and Transformation Plan and understand some of the implications for the VCSE.
- Explore how the VCSE can support the health and social care priorities for your area.
- Explore how the CCGs, NCC and others can support the VCSE with its key challenges.

●●● Approximately 40 people attended the West Norfolk event on March 15th at King's Lynn Town Hall.

Ask your pharmacist and help your NHS save money

People in Norfolk and Waveney are being urged to make the most of the skills and expertise of their local pharmacist to help save the NHS money.

The rally cry comes as part of the ongoing 'Your Medicines, Your NHS' campaign, which aims to reduce medicine waste which currently costs around £4.7m in Norfolk and Waveney each year.

The latest phase urges patients to 'ask your pharmacist' for advice on a range of common illnesses instead of booking an appointment with their GP. It also encourages people to buy medicines such as ibuprofen and paracetamol over the counter rather than asking for or accepting a prescription, in turn saving money which the NHS can reinvest in health services elsewhere.

The campaign has been organised by Norfolk and Waveney's five clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) - Great Yarmouth and Waveney, North Norfolk, West Norfolk, Norwich and South Norfolk.

Michael Dennis, head of medicines optimisation with NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney CCG, said:

"Over the counter pain relief such as paracetamol and ibuprofen can cost the NHS up to 50 times more if it's prescribed. As the NHS is funded by taxes, this means that every time medicine is prescribed unnecessarily, money is wasted and savings have to be made elsewhere."



"We're asking people to buy their own medicines over the counter wherever possible, rather than asking for a prescription. If everyone does their bit to save money, it will help scarce NHS resources to go further.

"It's also important to remember that pharmacists are highly-trained medical professionals who can offer help and advice about a huge range of common illnesses in just a matter of minutes. By speaking to them first, you could save yourself a visit to your GP and help free up appointments for other patients. Doing your bit is simple, so please help your NHS to cut back on waste so that it can make the best use of its resources for the benefit of everyone in Norfolk and Waveney."

Ian Small, head of medicines management for the Norfolk CCGs, said:

"Pharmacists are at the frontline of the NHS and can offer a huge range of help and advice on minor illnesses and injuries, such as coughs, colds, sore throats and infections. We would encourage anyone who needs help with common ailments to make their pharmacy the first port of call and get expert health and advice in a matter of minutes without an appointment."

Tony Dean, chief officer of the Norfolk Local Pharmaceutical Committee, said: "Community pharmacists are highly trained and skilled at assessing if they are able to deal with a condition or if it requires onward referral. We welcome that this role is being highlighted in Norfolk."



●●● You can find out more by visiting www.greatyarmouthandwaveneyccg.nhs.uk and clicking on the links from the homepage. Alternatively, you can follow the campaign on Twitter @YourMED_YourNHS and use the hashtags #askyourpharmacist and #yourmedicines

New provider of NHS 'Termination of Pregnancy Service'

The NHS has awarded a new contract to the British Pregnancy Advice Service (BPAS) to provide pregnancy terminations and related care in Norfolk.



BPAS took over the service from Wednesday 5th April 2017 for three years, with an option to extend for a further two years if both parties agree. The Termination of Pregnancy Service (TOPS) provides terminations which are clinically appropriate for gestation, ranging from early medical intervention to surgical abortions at up to 24 weeks.

The service is required to offer high quality, responsive and impartial support and advice to women who request an abortion, regardless of their age, ethnicity, disabilities, mental health needs, sexual orientation, religious or personal circumstances. It also offers sexual health screening and contraception advice for service users. The contract award follows a thorough procurement run by the NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups for West Norfolk, which co-ordinated the process, and North Norfolk, Norwich and South Norfolk. The procurement took place as scheduled because the contract for the current service was nearing the end of its term and had to be offered to all providers to tender for. The procurement process began in June 2016. The service was previously run by Marie Stopes International.

A panel of NHS doctors, nurses and managers evaluated the bids received to run the service and scored them against very strict criteria. 80% of the scoring related to the overall quality of the service and 20% was for financial sustainability. Dr Pallavi Devulapalli from NHS West Norfolk CCG said: "The termination of pregnancy service is a highly sensitive and important service that provides care for women at a time when they often feel vulnerable and worried. We shall work to ensure there is a smooth handover so that women can continue to have confidence in the service."

If you would like more information about any of the topics in this newsletter or would like to provide feedback or get involved please contact:

Get Involved!

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