

West Norfolk CCG Patient and Stakeholder

Newsletter

Issue 8 March 2016

In this edition:

Financial pressures
for WNCCG..

page 1

Community
Engagement Forum
- get involved!..

page 2

WNCCG appoint
new Governing Body
Member..

page 3

Free Home
Assessments on offer..

page 3

West Norfolk CCG warns of financial pressures and difficult choices ahead

People living in West Norfolk have access to high quality NHS care that is provided by GPs and nurses, acute hospitals, community teams and mental health specialists.



In common with many parts of the NHS, West Norfolk CCG is facing significant financial challenges resulting from finite resources and ever increasing demands on health services due to an aging, growing population.

As commissioners it is our duty to provide equitable provision of high quality health services for our population and we continue to work closely with our partners to ensure the long-term sustainability of services for local people.

For the first two years of operation the CCG was able to achieve a balanced budget and a small surplus of 1% to plough back into our local NHS. In 2015, however, our budget moved into the red and we were faced with a £4.9m predicted deficit. To ensure we met our legal obligation to remain within our allocated spending limit, the CCG was required to submit a financial recovery plan to NHS England detailing the steps we would take to balance the budget.

After working through a number of financial recovery plan schemes the CCG returned to financial balance in January 2016, however delivering the 1% surplus required under NHS England business rules remains challenging. We are not alone. Across the country the NHS remains under intense financial pressure and CCGs and trusts will face even tighter and more challenging finances in 2016/17.

Over recent months, we have been working to review the services we commission and continue to look for savings which will also deliver benefits for patients. Inevitably, in such a difficult financial environment, this means we will face more tough decisions as we draw up plans for the services we will continue to commission and identify those we will potentially have to stop providing.

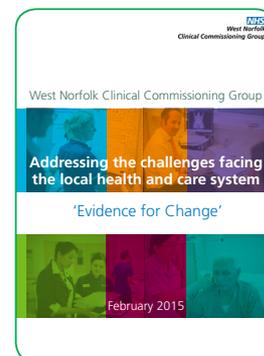
In February 2015, the CCG published a document called "Evidence for Change" which sets out why the NHS in West Norfolk is not financially sustainable in its current form and needs to change to meet current and anticipated future healthcare needs.

continued over page

The report also details a number of opportunities for improvements which include greater efficiency, better use of technology, better integration of services and better use of estates. The full report, together with a summary booklet which explains the report's in simple terms can be found on the CCG's website here:

www.westnorfolkccg.nhs.uk

To help shape and provide feedback on our work the CCG has set up a new Community Engagement Forum to allow our stakeholders and patients to play an active role in the decision-making process. *For more information about the forum please see below.



●●● If you would like to join the forum please contact Emily Arbon, Communications Manager, by emailing e.arbon@nhs.net or call 01553 666925.

West Norfolk Community Engagement Forum - Your chance to get involved!

NHS West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has launched a new Community Engagement Forum for residents and groups to have their say on healthcare issues locally.

The CCG is committed to public engagement and consultation, making sure we hear from all the people and communities in West Norfolk - everyone's opinions matter. There are many established organisations, support groups and patient groups that already exist in West Norfolk and the aim of the Community Engagement Forum is to bring those groups together and encourage active participation and two-way debate with the CCG.



Dr Sue Crossman, Chief Officer of West Norfolk CCG, said:

"One of our priorities is to ensure that patient views are heard. We know that patients want to have a real influence on decisions about their local health service, and this new forum will strengthen our work with our local community and enable us to get regular feedback on our plans as they develop."

The forum meets every two months and is chaired by Cathy Gale, WNCCG's Lay Member for Patient and Public Involvement.

●●● If you would like to attend the forum or for more information please contact Emily Arbon, Communications Manager, by email at e.arbon@nhs.net or call 01553 666925.

West Norfolk CCG appoint new Governing Body GP Member

Dr Clare Hambling, a GP from Bridge Street Surgery in Downham Market has been appointed as a GP Member on the West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group (WNCCG) Governing Body until April 2019.

Dr Hambling graduated from the University of Dundee in 1990, with a Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc) degree in Pharmacology and a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) degree with commendation.



continued over page

After medical rotations in Tayside and Portsmouth she opted for a career in General Practice, completing her GP training in Portsmouth and Plymouth. She has worked as a GP in West Norfolk since 1999 and is currently based at Bridge Street Surgery in Downham Market.

Dr Hambling has an interest in long-term conditions and in particular in Diabetes. She has been Chair of the West Norfolk Diabetes Network for about six years now and has contributed to diabetes-related projects and professional education throughout Norfolk and the East of England. She has sat on the programme board for the East Anglia Diabetes Eye Screening Service and is a member of the Eastern Academic Health Sciences Network Diabetes Projects Group. She has recently been elected to the committee of the Primary Care Diabetes Society and is a professional member of Diabetes UK.

She is married to a GP and they have three children. In her spare time she enjoys music and sings in a Chamber Choir and plays the violin.

Free Home Assessments on offer

Older, disabled or vulnerable residents of West Norfolk are being encouraged to book an appointment for a free home assessment from Careline Community Services, part of the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk.



The assessments, which are carried out by a team of qualified staff, will help residents, who may be living with a disability or dementia, or who are simply older and less mobile, to identify concerns in their property which may be affecting their day-to-day life.

The assessor, trained by the Disabled Living Foundation, will inspect the home to see whether measures could be introduced that would reduce the possibility of slips, trips and falls and generally make it easier for people to live safely and independently in their own homes.



Measures that could be considered include installation of a Careline personal alarm, improved lighting arrangements, heating checks, draught proofing, smoke detectors and easy-to-use taps along with recommendations for other adaptations that may reduce any potential risk to the resident. Practical solutions for those living with dementia are also available, this includes signage or colour differentiation for those who suffer with memory loss and are visually impaired.

The assessors will also be able to advise whether any grant funding is available for any works required.

●●● To book an appointment call the Careline Community Team on 01553 760671.

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!

Emily Arbon, Communications Manager at West Norfolk CCG via 01553 666925
or email e.arbon@nhs.net