



right care  
right place  
right time  
right outcome

## MERTON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP GOVERNING BODY

**Date of Meeting:** 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Agenda No:** 5.1

**Attachment:** 04

<b>Title of Document:</b> Chair's Report	<b>Purpose of Report:</b> To note
<b>Report Author:</b> James Blythe, Managing Director	<b>Lead Director:</b> Dr Andrew Murray, Clinical Chair
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<b>Executive Summary:</b> This report covers the main matters of interest for the chair to bring to the attention of the Governing Body.	
<b>Key sections for particular note (paragraph/page), areas of concern etc.:</b> N/A	
<b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note	
<b>Committees which have previously discussed/agreed the report:</b> N/A	
<b>Financial Implications:</b> N/A	
<b>Implications for CCG Governing Body:</b> For note and discussion	
<b>How has the Patient voice been considered in development of this paper:</b> Areas highlighted in this report have developed patient engagement approaches	
<b>Other Implications:</b> Nil	
<b>Equality Assessment:</b> Not required	
<b>Information Privacy Issues:</b> N/A	
<b>Communication Plan:</b> N/A	

## **CHAIRS UPDATE**

### **Business Continuity and Response Plans**

As you will be aware from recent media activity, the UK Threat Level has been changed back to SEVERE (i.e. an attack is highly likely) after having risen to CRITICAL (i.e. an attack is expected imminently).

All practices were asked to check their business continuity and response plans; to ensure that all staff were aware of their contents and to communicate what the process was in the event of an incident that affects the NHS or our ability to get to work.

In addition, should there be an incident that means our partners and providers need our support, the CCG will also implement our business continuity plan to provide the support for the system. Let's hope it won't be necessary.

### **The STP and Local Health and Care Partnerships**

The Sustainability and Transformation Partnership for SW London, which includes the NHS and local authorities, is currently refreshing its strategy. Since the publication of the SW London STP document in November 2016, the partnership has held a series of public engagement events and more in-depth conversations with stakeholders. As a result, the STP programme Board is now updating its approach and focus.

It is recognised that a local approach works best and local health and care partnerships have been set up in four areas – Croydon, Sutton, Kingston/Richmond and Merton/Wandsworth. These local partnerships, made up of NHS commissioners and providers, local authorities, Healthwatch, the voluntary sector and patients and the public, will develop future plans for health and care services in their area.

Merton is represented on both the Merton and Wandsworth group and also the Sutton Group. The groups are still in their infancy at the moment and we will be providing more details as they develop over the coming months.

An 'STP refresh' will be published and shared with partners in November.

### **Referrals to St George's Foundation Trust**

St George's Hospital continues to have significant problems with inadequate capacity in certain specialties, which have created considerable backlogs of patients on waiting lists. Practices were recently sent an email which introduced a 'System Capacity Tool' which gives quick access to information about the specialties with the longest waits at St George's, and identifies local alternatives with shorter waits.

We are also working with NHS colleagues to roll out another tool with similar aims, but which is embedded in the electronic referral system (eRS). The second tool uses the

electronic referral system (eRS) to help GPs to identify which specialities are under the most pressure, and identify nearby alternative providers where patients will be able to be seen and treated more quickly than at St George's.

St George's is working closely with us on this initiative and we plan to start using the eRS system over the next few weeks.

### **Epsom and St Helier “providing high quality healthcare services 2020 to 2030”**

I am sure you will all have seen that the Trust is talking to local people about its future and asking for their thoughts on the future of their local hospitals. The Chief Executive of Epsom and St Helier also provided an overview of their 2020-2030 Vision at Merton's Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 6 September.

We know that the buildings at both Epsom and St Helier hospitals are in very poor condition and that this impacts on patients. This is a problem that needs to be addressed. We need significant capital investment in health and care facilities across south west London and investment in Merton and Sutton and Epsom is a vital part of this. Obviously we are only at the beginning of a conversation. We do not yet have enough detail about the proposed model of care, the funding, patient flows or what local people think, to take a view on which scenario would be the right one. As discussions move forward, the local health and care partners for Merton/Wandsworth, Sutton and Surrey will work with the Trust and local people to consider the best way forward.

As we have always made clear any significant changes would not be undertaken without consultation and the active involvement of local people

### **Social Prescribing Pilot**

The pilot scheme for social prescribing in East Merton, where people are linked up to non-clinical support by their GP, is going really well. Feedback so far suggests the scheme is popular and that many people are now accessing services that they previously did not know about as well as requiring fewer appointments with their GP. The initial evaluation project is underway and the intention is that the pilot will be expanded to a number of practices over the next few months.

A learning event is planned to bring together experiences from a number of related navigator /case management projects in the borough and a funding plan and bid has been developed to secure funding to cover the scaling up of the service with the intention being to expand to more practices in Merton and across into Wandsworth too.