



Mid and South Essex
Integrated Care
System



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IMWC and Primary Care update

12 January 2023

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IMWC update

- Corringham
 - Now at Initial Operating Capability (IOC) and working towards transforming to Full Operating Capability (FOC) by Integrated Locality Board
 - Lessons Identified workshops and one to one sessions followed by a review to inform subsequent sites
 - Reviewed benefits of Corringham to drive FOC
 - Future projects will have concurrent transformation alongside site development and opening

Grays IMWC

- Thurrock Community Hospital site in Grays has been officially selected as the Grays IMWC site
- Community Diagnostic Centre formal funding approval received last week and project now initiated. Expected opening early/mid 2024.
- Grays site plan has been value engineered – estimated £16m
- Plan is sequential building to open as they become available starting with UTC winter 24/25 and further services in 2025

Affordability constraints

- Purfleet on Thames and Tilbury and Chadwell business cases remain with NHSE
 - CDEL is a national issue – IFRS16
- Contingency planning about to start with stakeholders to enable identification of how we could still deliver the Better Care Together Thurrock benefits should the business cases be rejected by NHSE

Closure of Orsett Hospital

- Scheduling of closure now dependent on
 - Primarily the funding of Grays IMWC
 - NHSE business cases for Tilbury and Purfleet
 - Purfleet business case submitted 10 months ago
- Unlikely to close in 2025
- Closure likely to be sequential as services move away from the site and into the community locations in Thurrock

GP fellowship scheme

- One Candidate Appointed and due to start over the next month or so
- Two candidates Interviews being arranged for coming weeks
- Three further applications received and currently in process of matching with practices
- Further 4 applications expected following positive initial enquiries

Alternative Provider Medical Services

- Mid and South Essex ICB currently manages 12 Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contracts
- These are fixed-term (the General Medical Services contracts held by most GP practices run in perpetuity)
- 5 of these contracts, all for Thurrock practices, have contract end dates in March 2023 or June 2023.
- 1 short-term contract in Southend also ends in March
- The ICB determined that re-procurement of all 6 contracts was the best option currently available to secure primary care services for affected residents

Affected practices

- Oddfellows Health Centre and St Clements Health Centre (premises in Grays and West Thurrock, with a list size of 11,800 patients at 1 April 2022)
- Tilbury Health Centre (premises in tilbury, 12,178 patients)
- Thurrock Health Centre (premises in Grays, 12,502 patients)
- Commonwealth Health Centre (premises in Tilbury, 5,740 patients)
- Purfleet Care Centre (premises in Purfleet, 6,358 patients)
- *and North Shoebury Surgery (premises in Southend-on-Sea, 6,394 patients)*

Service model and re-procurement

Following an options appraisal, the re-procurement was based on:

- Securing the right provider for the primary care needs of patients
- Using General Medical Services specification (as already received by >80% of MSE registered population)
- Removing enhanced specifications from Thurrock APMS contracts frees up £1.4m per year to be spent on primary care for all Thurrock residents
- Submissions scored in a robust process involving partners such as Healthwatch
- Evaluation focused on sustainability of workforce; ability to deliver collaborative solutions; continuity of care; and reduction of local health inequalities
- Contracts to run for 15 years to offer stability of local primary care and improve value for money

Outcomes to date

- Scoring was undertaken in November 2022
- Standstill period after notification of preferred provider and other bidders ended last week – no appeals lodged
- Subject to Contract Agreement, all contracts will be awarded to the same preferred provider, Spirit Healthcare – a national provider of primary care with experienced clinical leadership
- Mobilisation phase now begins, with the ICB's priority to ensure an effective transition of services from the incumbent providers
- Key objectives are supporting and retaining staff; ensuring patients can continue to access good-quality services; informing patients of the change and that they will not need to re-register
- Patients will be able to meet the new provider during mobilisation

Changes from current provision

- Provision for most people will continue as usual during and after mobilisation
- There might be some staffing changes under a new primary care provider, but most practice staff are expected to transfer under TUPE protections
- The new specification is for patient access to core primary care 8am–6.30pm Monday–Friday, with Extended Access provision at a Primary Care Network level 6.30pm–8pm Monday–Friday and 9am–5pm on Saturdays
- This is a change for Thurrock Health Centre patients, who can currently book Saturday and Sunday morning appointments at their practice, but MSE-wide out-of-hours services remain available on Sunday
- The ICB's thanks go to the current APMS providers in Thurrock, College Health Group and HCRG, for their continued efforts in delivering quality care to our residents

Questions

