

20th February 2018

ITEM:

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Update on Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)

Report of: Jo Cripps, Programme Director, Mid and South Essex STP

Executive Summary

In line with the relevant regulations a Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee comprising members from Essex County Council, Southend Council and Thurrock Council has been established to scrutinise issues relating to the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP).

This paper provides an update on current progress and follows previous reports to the three individual local authority health overview and scrutiny committees

The Mid and South Essex STP launched a public consultation to run from 30 November 2017 to 9 March 2018. The consultation is seeking views on:

- The overall plan for health and care
- Proposals for hospital services in Southend, Chelmsford and Basildon
- Proposals to transfer services from Orsett Hospital in Thurrock to new centres closer to where people live

This update provides a summary of the process so far.

1. Recommendation(s)

The Joint Committee is asked to note the update and to consider the proposals published for consultation

2. Background and update

2.1 Following the agreement of the CCG Joint Committee, we have published a range of materials to explain proposals for change, including:

- A main consultation document (which benefited from input from all three scrutiny committees)
- Summary document and very short leaflet
- Feedback questionnaire, available online and in hard copy format
- Additional information, including:
 - summary sheets on common themes from pre-consultation discussions stroke, transport and financial plans and an easy read leaflet

- a summary of clinical evidence behind the proposals
- more detailed information on how we arrived at the proposals
- other background, such as details on travel times
- highlights of what is happening in the each CCG area

- 2.2 There is a dedicated consultation website for all of the above information and more, including blogs, frequently asked questions and details on the various ways to have your say. The website can be found at www.nhsmidandsouthessex.co.uk
- 2.3 We have also distributed printed documents, summaries and leaflets with the assistance of the CCGs, Hospitals, Councils, Healthwatch and CVS to public places including local libraries, GP practices and community centres.
- 2.4 Promoting links to the consultation website and the local discussion events via social media has been used to good effect in reaching and engaging large numbers of people.
- 2.5 A range of information is available in different formats and languages on request and specific focus groups held to target those groups with protected characteristics as set out in the Equalities Act 2010. This includes specific sessions with LGBT groups, diversity networks, faith groups, younger people and mothers to discuss any possible impact the proposals may have on them as a group.
- 2.6 Across the mid and south Essex area there has and continues to be a programme of open discussion events. Some 450 people have booked onto to these events.

In addition there are a number of discussions and focus groups organised with key representatives, including:

- Healthwatch
- The Stroke Association
- Anglia Ruskin University
- South Essex College

- 2.7 There is also a clear message in the consultation documents that meetings may be arranged on request, and we are adding activities all the time.

Summary of the key messages for consultation

- 2.8 We are consulting local people on some very specific proposals for changes in hospital services across mid and south Essex. This is only part of the overall plan for the next five years and, while considering the proposals for hospital changes, we need to keep sight of the wider picture of whole system change over the next five years.

2.9 The wider STP includes:

- Doing more to help people to stay healthy and avoid serious illness
- Building up GP and community services to improve access to care closer to where people live
- Joining up health and care services to provide local and more responsive physical, mental and social care together

2.10 The proposed changes to hospital services are based around five main principles:

- The majority of hospital care will remain local and each hospital will continue to have a 24 hour A&E department that receives ambulances.
- Certain more specialist services which need a hospital stay should be concentrated in one place, where this would improve your care and chances of a good recovery.
- Access to specialist emergency services, such as stroke care, should be via your local (or nearest) A&E, where you would be treated and, if needed, transferred to a specialist team, which may be in a different hospital
- Planned operations should, where possible, be separate from patients who are coming into hospital in an emergency.
- Some hospital services should be provided closer to you, at home or in a local health centre

Please see separately attached a PDF copy of the main consultation document and copies of the summary sheets on transport, finance and stroke

An animation has also been produced with can be accessed here:

<http://bit.ly/STPanimation>

Current progress

2.11 Feedback so far includes positive reactions about the way that proposals have changed as a result of listening to local views during the previous engagement phases. In general, there are questions about funding for the NHS, in line with the current national debate. Access and transport remain a common theme for discussion.

2.12 Other common themes include access to primary and community care as an issue for the wider context, beyond the current proposals for hospital service change.

2.13 We are also consulting specific groups that are representative of people who may be affected by the proposed hospital service changes, with the aim of ensuring we hear specific insights on the potential impact of change and what

matters to patients and families – for example dedicated focus groups held in conjunction with the Stroke Association to gain insight from stroke survivors.

2.14 An independent telephone survey has been commissioned to undertake a questionnaire to a representative sample of 750 people from across the mid and south Essex footprint

3. Background papers

- PDF copy of main consultation document
- Three summary sheets covering transport, stroke and finance

For further background information please visit
www.nhsmidandsouthessex.co.uk

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