



This issue of the eBulletin from NHS West Sussex includes updates on the White Paper consultations, a 'one stop' gynaecology clinic pilot, a new GP practice in Crawley, our Annual General Meeting on 30 September and how commissioning is to be taken on by clinician groups.

## You can take part in the White Paper consultations

On 12 July Secretary of State for Health Andrew Lansley set out the Government's ambitious plans to reform the NHS during this Parliament and for the long-term. The White Paper '*Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*' details how power will be devolved from Whitehall to patients and professionals.

The Department of Health is consulting on four supplementary documents to the White Paper:

- **Transparency in outcomes: a framework for the NHS**  
This consultation looks more at the plans for a national NHS Outcomes Framework, which will hold the NHS Commissioning Board to account for improving services.
- **Liberating the NHS: regulating healthcare providers**  
This consultation looks further at proposals for foundation trusts and the establishment of Monitor as an independent economic regulator for health and adult social care.
- **Liberating the NHS: commissioning for patients**  
This consultation sets out proposals for putting local consortia of GP practices in charge of commissioning services to best meet the needs of local people, supported by an independent NHS Commissioning Board.
- **Increasing democratic legitimacy in health**  
This consultation builds on the proposals in the White Paper to increase local democratic legitimacy in health. It looks at how local authorities will take responsibility for local public health improvement and promoting more effective NHS, social care and public health commissioning arrangements.

We want to hear your views and suggestions about the Government's proposals and will be sending a co-ordinated response from staff and stakeholders in West Sussex to the South East Coast Strategic Health Authority. Get involved and have your say or make suggestions.

You can email us at: [publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk](mailto:publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk) call us: 01903 708045 or write to us: Public Engagement, FREEPOST SEA 1064, NHS West Sussex, 1 The Causeway, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex BN12 6ZZ.

Please submit your comments by 14 September 2010.

Visit our website for more information about the consultations <http://www.westsussex.nhs.uk/nhs-white-paper>

## 'One stop' gynaecology clinics being piloted

We need to ensure that we are providing the best and most appropriate care for individual patients, and that it is providing value for money. The gynaecology pilot, which was launched in June, is a joint initiative between NHS West Sussex and Practice Based Commissioning (PBC) consortia in Cissbury (Worthing) and Chichester & Regis (ARCH) that contributes to the delivery of one of our five priorities – referral management.

The model being piloted has been developed in response to referral data which showed that up to 50% of heavy menstrual bleeding, lower urinary tract symptoms and prolapse could have been managed in primary care.

By working collaboratively with consultant gynaecologists at Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust, revised clinical guidelines for common gynaecology conditions have been agreed. Using these guidelines, the pilot aims to embed best practice and manage the 'work-up' of patients effectively in primary care, enabling them to benefit from receiving their specialist care in 'one stop' gynaecology clinics on a 'see and treat' basis.

Dr Katie Armstrong, ARCH PBC Lead believes that 'Care closer to home for patients suffering from gynaecology problems is about good primary care doing what good primary care should do.' She adds that 'Locally we have GPs with excellent skills and expertise, we just need to ensure consistency in our management of patients and where necessary encourage inter-practice referrals to the available expertise.'

## PPC committed to ensuring effective public engagement

NHS West Sussex Patient and Public Council (PPC) met last week (18 August) in the recently opened Angmering Community Centre. The main presentation at the meeting was from colleagues at the Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust who were interested in the PPC's views on the practicalities of running the forthcoming consultation on proposed developments at the Worthing Hospital and Southlands Hospital sites. The Government's White Paper *'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'* was another topic for discussion.

The PPC is committed to working with NHS West Sussex to ensure effective public engagement throughout this time of NHS reform and organisational change. The next meeting of the PPC is on 21 September at The Hawth, Crawley.

For further information about the PPC please email: [mynhswestsussex@westsussexpct.nhs.uk](mailto:mynhswestsussex@westsussexpct.nhs.uk)

## New GP practice is fit to look after patients for years to come

A brand new GP practice, which will help thousands of people in Crawley, was officially opened in the town on Wednesday 28 July. Langley Green Surgery is the brand new home of the Leacroft Medical Practice and has already seen hundreds of patients passing through its doors for appointments and information. Health professionals, local councillors and patients got a chance to have a look around the surgery when it was officially opened by Crawley Mayor, Councillor Lee Burke.

Martin Pope, Practice Manager at Langley Green Surgery, said: "We are delighted to move into this new state of the art surgery. It is a really exciting development for the area. This new development gives us an excellent opportunity to meet the health needs of people in Langley Green and offer the range of services expected of a modern medical practice. Leacroft Medical Practice has more than 50 years of experience providing GP services to people in Crawley and we hope that this new development at Langley Green Surgery is a great step forward to our next 50 years.'

The new practice was developed by The Leacroft Medical Practice in partnership with NHS West Sussex.

## Board approves recommendation to improve mental health services

On 29 July the Board of NHS West Sussex approved proposals for significant improvements to community and primary care mental health services, focused on 10 'high impact changes' which will significantly improve services to the patient, and carers. The Board also agreed a recommendation to reduce inpatient capacity by 55 beds across the county, but only once these improvements are in place.

The decision marks the end of an intensive period of public consultation, and the recommendation which was approved by the Board was the result of six public meetings, more than 100 meetings with stakeholders and service user groups, and the views of people being expressed via a range of channels including the NHS West Sussex website and a dedicated phone line. In total 180 formal responses were received to the consultation, which was carried out jointly with Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Stakeholders and service users will now continue to play an integral role in implementing the improvements to services in the coming 12-18 months, providing valuable insight as well as public assurance.

## Annual General Meeting and Board meeting on Thursday 30 September

NHS West Sussex is holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 10.30am to 12 noon on Thursday 30 September 2010 in the Assembly Room, The Council House, North Street, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1LQ. Further information is available from Mary Dolphin on 01903 708381.

The Board Meeting held in public, which will begin at 1.30pm, will be held at the same venue.

Members of the public are welcome to attend both the AGM and the Board meeting and time will be set aside for anyone who would like to ask questions.

NHS West Sussex holds Board meetings in public (usually bi-monthly) at different venues across the county to discuss and make decisions on local health matters.

The agenda and papers for each Board meeting (including the venue) are sent to public libraries and local authority HELP POINTS. The Board papers are also posted on the website at: [www.westsussex.nhs.uk/board-meetings](http://www.westsussex.nhs.uk/board-meetings)

The next Board meeting held in public is currently scheduled for 25 November 2010 at the Jubilee Hall in Lancing, West Sussex BN15 8AJ.

## Helping to shape children's 'urgent care' services

Parents, children and young people in West Sussex are being given the chance to shape children's 'urgent care' health services for the future.

The local NHS wants to hear from families who have used or experienced 'urgent care' services for young people in West Sussex. Their views will be considered by a group of NHS doctors, nurses and other health professionals, who are currently working together to look at new ways to further improve children's urgent care services.

To help their work they want to hear from people who have first-hand experience of what is currently available in the county. Anyone who volunteers to get involved will be able to have their say on current services and help the team of health professionals to look at what would help to improve the quality and experience for children, young people and their families when they need emergency or urgent care.

Anyone who wants to get involved should email Sue Pumphrey at [publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk](mailto:publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk) or call us on 01903 708045.

## Commissioning is to be taken on by clinician groups

The White Paper '*Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*' (published on 12 July) states that commissioning is to be taken on by clinician groups over the next three years and that every GP practice will be a member of a consortium. We believe that in West Sussex we have a firm foundation that fits well with the government's vision for the future.

There are currently eight Practice Based Commissioning (PBC) consortia in West Sussex, broadly in line with local authority boundaries. PBC colleagues in five of the groups – Cissbury (Worthing), Adur, Arun, Chichester & Regis (ARCH) – have been working together for some time as the South Sussex GP Commissioning Federation, covering a population of around 500,000. Practices in the five PBCs received information on how to get involved with the new Federation some weeks ago, and a Designate (or shadow) board, chaired by Dr Katie Armstrong, has been created to take the work forward.

In the North East of the county, partnership working is ongoing between Horsham & Chanctonbury, Mid Sussex and Crawley PBC groups with each consortium taking the lead on major work programmes such as referral management and unscheduled care.

We are now in the process of establishing a cross directorate matrix project team and agreeing a transition timetable with the PBC consortia. In the meantime they remain committed to the priorities set out in our Strategic Commissioning Plan (SCP) and will be working closely with us to deliver the top priority programmes.

## Tell us what you think about local pharmaceutical services

NHS West Sussex wants local people to give their views on pharmaceutical services as part of our Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) consultation. These services are usually provided by high street pharmacies, a dispensary at a doctor's surgery or a specialist appliance contractor. These providers also have a valuable role in promoting better health, preventing illness and helping people to get the best from their medicines and use of appliances such as catheters.

NHS West Sussex is responsible for ensuring that people living in West Sussex have access to the best quality health services and has a legal requirement to publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) by 1 February 2011. The PNA evaluates local pharmaceutical needs and how well current services meet them. We would like local people to share their comments on the draft document. Their views will help to shape the final version of the PNA which will then be used to plan the future development of pharmaceutical services in the county.

Local people will be able to view the draft PNA document on the website from mid September until November at [www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk/pna](http://www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk/pna) and share their views by completing an online feedback form. Comments can also be given via email at [publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk](mailto:publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk) and by post to PNA, Freepost SEA 1064, NHS West Sussex, 1 The Causeway, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing BN12 6ZZ. Copies of the draft document will also be available in local libraries.

For more information, or to request a copy of the draft document, please contact NHS West Sussex on 0800 028 6203 or via [publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk](mailto:publicengagement@westsussexpct.nhs.uk)

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