

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 26 NOVEMBER 2018

EVALUATION OF WINTER PRESSURES ON URGENT CARE – UPDATE ON THE SYSTEM PLAN

Summary

1. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) has requested an update on local health economy partners' evaluation of winter pressures and how this evaluation has informed planning for 2018/19 to improve performance.
2. This follows HOSC's discussion of winter evaluation work earlier this year on 5 July.
3. An update on the Acute Trust's overall performance is provided elsewhere in this agenda.
4. Representatives from Worcestershire's Clinical Commissioning Groups and Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust have been invited to the meeting.

Background

5. Weather conditions over winter bring additional pressures and challenges for the health service and social care providers, many of which have been referred to during HOSC's discussions with local partners. Worcestershire has a higher than average proportion of older people with increasing frailty.
6. Pressures on acute hospital services and the need for improvement in the Acute Hospital Trust's performance and capacity has been well publicised. The HOSC requested a discussion with health partners across Worcestershire to understand the work in hand to address pressures on services. HOSC was briefed on health partners' preparation for winter 2017/18, specific winter schemes, outcomes and overall evaluation.
7. A record of the discussion on 5 July can be found [here](#)
8. Evaluation work had been completed by Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Unit on various aspects of the winter plan. The CCGs have also commissioned a system-wide analysis of the urgent care and patient flow system by a consultancy group (Carnall Farrar).

Lessons Learned from 2017/18

9. The presentation at appendix 1 outlines progress with mitigating winter pressures, since the July discussion.
10. In summary the bed occupancy rates at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital site

continue to drive the majority of the issues with urgent care and patient flow pressures and the focus of the winter planning and the Accident and Emergency Delivery Board (AEDB) is to deliver actions to reduce bed occupancy. In addition the outcomes of the Carnall Farrar demand and capacity analysis is providing further opportunities to consider realigning urgent care services across the two acute sites.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

11. There are no specific legal, financial or HR implications associated with this paper, but there will be significant implications associated with the development of plans for each programme transformation area within the STP and their subsequent implementation. As these plans are developed, if required to do so, they will be reported to HOSC in a timely manner.

Purpose of the Meeting

13. The HOSC is invited to consider and comment on the system plan and progress with applying learning from the review of last year's winter plans.

14. In doing so, HOSC members may look to consider:

- Lessons learned from the evaluation of winter pressures – how has learning been taken forward?
- What has worked better so far for 2018/19
- How will we know if the new system-wide approach is working?
- Are all partners involved?
- What are the main obstacles?

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - presentation

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this Report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5 July, 14 March and 29 January 2018, 19 July and 17 October 2017, 27 April, 19 July, 26 September, 16 November 2016, 16 September and 9 December 2015, 26 February and 30 April 2014 - available on the County Council's website [here](#)
- Agendas and Minutes of the Health and Well-being Board are available [here](#)
- Healthwatch Worcestershire report 'Care in the Corridor at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital – Follow Up Report (June 2018)
<http://www.healthwatchworcestershire.co.uk/care-in-the-corridor-at-the-worcestershire-royal-hospital-march-2017/>