

Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group

Working Together to Improve Health & Wellbeing

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In This Issue

- [Editorial](#)
- [Clinical Services Update – Cardiology](#)
- [CCG Chairman New Role](#)
- [CCG Values and Behaviours](#)
- [Shepton Mallet Health Campus Alignment to Values and Behaviours](#)
- [Shepton Mallet Health Campus Service Shortlist](#)
- [Adult Social Care – New Charging Policy](#)
- [Somerset Safeguarding Children Board - latest](#)
- [Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board - latest](#)
- [Somerset Choices – for Children’s Services](#)
- [Learning Disabilities Provider Service Update](#)
- [Vanguards Celebrate First Year](#)
- [New NHS England Business Plan](#)

Editorial - What’s in a name?

It may have escaped your notice but as from 1st April the CCG changed its corporate strapline (as printed on all letters and formal documents and communications from the CCG) from 'Clinical Leadership to Improve Health' to 'Working Together to Improve Health and Wellbeing'. This followed a period of consultation with CCG staff and COG Delegates and the new strapline was selected from a number of alternatives put forward.

Whereas clinical involvement and leadership remains a key feature of clinical commissioning groups and as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2013, it was felt that the new strapline conveyed a more inclusive approach and was consistent with the future direction of the health and social care environment in Somerset.

Will this make any tangible difference to the outcome of the CCG's day to day work? - well probably not, but it should help to reinforce both to CCG staff, our partner organisations and the public that the CCG is committed to a new way of working, notably collaborating, in order to achieve the desired outcomes not just of improved health but also of improved wellbeing in the population. Organisation names, as with straplines, are important and should be meaningful but for organisations to be successful they need to be backed up by consistent values and behaviours in how they operate (see items below). It is these that give real meaning to organisations and should reflect the nature of how business is conducted by the CCG and inspire confidence to its staff and most importantly to the population for whom we serve.

Dr Geoff Sharp - Editor

Clinical Services Update - Cardiology

The Cardiology Clinical Programme Group has been working on several projects over the last few months, including services for rehabilitation, diagnostics, and heart failure. There has been a highly successful cardiology study day in partnership with Somerset GP Education Trust which was attended by over 80 people and led to positive discussions about working more effectively between primary and secondary care.

An interesting part of the new NICE Guidelines on acute heart failure is the introduction of a new drug called Entresto. It is a combination of two drugs – Valsartan and Sacubitril. The latter is a new class of drug. Its mode of action causes levels of a peptide called BNP to rise. BNP reduces vascular resistance and causes natriuresis – salt and water loss and in turn improves cardiac function. Published research has shown use of this drug reduces symptoms, admissions to hospital and mortality.

As to be expected the drug is very expensive. Its inclusion onto the

Somerset Prescribing Formulary has been discussed at the Somerset Prescribing Forum and it has been agreed that it should be added to the Somerset Formulary as an 'Amber' drug ie for initiation, stabilization and initial monitoring in secondary care. A key consideration will be to ensure patients who meet the appropriate criteria for using this new drug are identified so that patient benefit is optimised.

For further information on the cardiology programme please contact either Mark.Dayer@tst.nhs.uk or Rachael.Rowe@somersetccg.nhs.uk

CCG Chairman to lead plan for system wide service transformation

Somerset CCG Chairman, Dr Matthew Dolman, has taken up a key leadership role for the Somerset health and social care community to become the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for Somerset's Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

By June 2016, all health and care communities must have developed a comprehensive five year strategy setting out how they intend to join up health and social care services with partner agencies and local service providers. Known as the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), communities are not only required to show how hospital, GP, community health and social care services will deliver more integrated working but also ensure they:

1. Improve the health and wellbeing of their local population
2. Improve the quality of local health and care services
3. Deliver financial stability and balance throughout the local health care system

Dr Dolman will be seconded from his role as Chairman of Somerset CCG to take up this new role as the county's STP Senior Responsible Officer. The current Vice Chairman of Somerset CCG, Mr Lou Evans, will take on the role as Chairman of on an interim basis, whilst a clinical leader is identified to take on the role as Chair.

For more details read the [news release on the Somerset CCG website](#). A full list of STP leaders is available on the [NHS England website](#)

Somerset CCG Values and Behaviours

Somerset CCG has recently developed a set of 'behaviours and intentions' to support the core values that were created at its inception in April 2013. These were developed in conjunction with all staff through Staff Forum Representatives and the Leadership Team and were officially launched at the Staff Briefing earlier this year.

The five values are: adopting open and transparent processes; supporting innovation; taking a collaborative approach; being people, patient and carer centred; ensuring best value.

Values and behaviours in an organisation help to define the culture and influence the strategic decisions that are made. They also help to shape internal and external employee and stakeholder relationships. In short, values and behaviours have a long reach and a wide span of influence on

critical processes and characteristics in organisations.

A great example of where the values and behaviours have provided an anchor for the principles of working is in the Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus project which you can read more about below.

For further information contact [Marianne King](#), Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.

Values and Behaviours - Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus

The five values and behaviours discussed above have been aligned throughout the Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus project as follows:

Adopting open and transparent process: By working openly and honestly with all stakeholders, the Shepton Mallet project team have developed a level of trust that has encouraged transparency in the decisions that have been made. This has been achieved by the project team working across all directorates ensuring that communication has remained open. Furthermore, the procurement process has followed European Regulations and procedures which has further developed trust and transparency.

There are eighteen individuals that are part of the evaluation process including clinicians, CCG managers and patient representatives. An independent audit was conducted to ensure a fair, comprehensive and transparent process is being followed, and confirming there are robust governance processes in place to support decision making.

Supporting innovation: Innovation allows for Somerset CCG to look for continuous improvement in services commissioned. During the procurement process, bidders have been encouraged to share innovative and new ways of working in order to meet the service specification. They have also been encouraged to share their early thinking regarding the infrastructure for supporting delivery of all the planned services.

Taking a collaborative approach: The project has involved collaborative working with clinicians, CCG managers, patient representatives, Somerset County Council, NHS Property Services, the Health and Wellbeing Board, patients and carers to support robust decision making. This has encouraged the use of a variety of skill sets from within and outside of the organisation and contributing to a collaborative approach.

Being people, patient and carer centred: A key part of this project has been in recognising the value of listening to the views of the local public, clinicians, CCG staff, patients, and stakeholders. Engagement with the public has helped to shift initial views and thinking from being sceptical about the proposals to positive and supportive contributions being made as the benefits of the site re-development and planned services on offer are realised.

Ensuring best value: The project has explored different ways of working aimed at driving efficiencies and productivity through innovative delivery, helping to ensure best value and the best possible patient care processes. These actions have demonstrated that Somerset CCG has acted responsibly as a commissioner to ensure best value is delivered from the available

resources.

There is still work to do in order to embed our values and behaviours into all of the project workstreams. However, as we start to align key pieces of work, our values and behaviours will become even more relevant in our day to day work.

For more information contact [Sarah Lomax](#), Acute Programme Transformation Manager.

Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus Service shortlist

Two organisations have been shortlisted to proceed to the next stage of the procurement process for the re-provision of services at the Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus. The organisations shortlisted are:

- Shepton Mallet Health Partnership (Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Care UK)
- Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

The contract is for eight (plus two) years, worth £135 million to re-provide inpatient, community and secondary care services as part of a highly innovative scheme to develop the town's community hospital site as a health and wellbeing campus.

The ambitious plan will see the Treatment Centre, community hospital and a relocated Grove House Medical Centre located on the same site. The site will also provide a base for the voluntary sector and local community organisations to offer local people health promoting activities and advice to patients and the public.

Somerset CCG, which is overseeing the procurement of the Shepton Mallet Health and Wellbeing Campus contract, aims to announce the successful bidder by the summer of 2016.

For more information contact [Sarah Lomax](#), Acute Programme Transformation Manager.

New Charging Policy for Adult Social Care

On 16 March Somerset County Council's Cabinet agreed a new Charging Policy for Adult Social Care which came into place from 1 April 2016. This revised policy takes account of the Care Act's guidance on personal budgets. The policy changes seek to remove any inequalities in the current policy.

It has been agreed that existing service users will not be affected by the new charging policy and will see no change to the charges they pay. The new policy will affect people who are new to the service.

Most of the current charging policy already reflects the legislation in the Care Act but there are two specific service areas that need to change:

1. People who have a day service only.
From April new people who require a day service only will have a financial assessment. They will now be assessed to contribute a means

tested amount towards their personal budget.

2. People who are maximum payers and receive the sitting service.
The subsidised rate for maximum payers on the sitting service will no longer apply for new service users from April.

Existing service users in the two areas above will receive a letter to make them aware of the changes but making it clear that they will not have a change in fee from what they are paying currently.

To view the new charging policy online please click this link:

www.somerset.gov.uk/organisation/departments/adult-social-care/

Somerset Safeguarding Children Board - Latest

The Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) has recently launched new guidance for professionals and managers who work with children, young people and their families to ensure they receive the right service, in the right place, at the right time. Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/sscbthresholds to view and download the guidance and for other useful tools and information.

To support the launch of the thresholds guidance, a new phone line is now available – 0300 123 3078. The Children’s Safeguarding Leads’ Consultation Line, which is staffed by qualified social workers, is available for Safeguarding Leads in all agencies if they are unsure whether or not they need to make a referral to Children’s Social Care. Callers will have established if other professionals are working with the family and referred to the Thresholds guidance before calling. The line is open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm.

Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board - Latest

The Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) has published the latest edition of the [quarterly SSAB newsletter](#), created to disseminate news and learning on behalf of the multi-agency partnership. Highlights this month include: the launch of the [brand new SSAB website](#); revised Care Act statutory guidance; raising awareness of female genital mutilation (FGM); and lessons to emerge from a recently completed case review, and information about a multi-agency practitioner learning event in June 2016.

For more information please email ssab@somerset.gov.uk

Somerset Choices - For Children’s Services

You will have heard of [Somerset Choices](#) in previous Newsletter editions – it is a new website that gives people information and advice on care and support services and local groups in Somerset.

At the moment it is mainly focussed on adult’s services but soon children’s services will be featured on the site. Somerset Choices will be a central point of access to information, advice and a wide range of services and support groups for children and families from private, public, community and voluntary sectors. It will replace the SEND Local Offer and Somerset Family Information Directory (SFID).

Local people, and professionals, will be able to search the website for local

services, support groups and products to meet individual needs. The website will help more people to help themselves or help professionals to advise of local opportunities which has the potential to prevent the need for intervention from children's social care or other professionals

If you would like to be involved in the development of Somerset Choices for children's services we would like to hear from you. You can help us by viewing test versions of the site and giving us your feedback.

Please contact us at www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback if you would like to get involved.

Learning Disabilities Provider Service - Update

In February 2014, Somerset County Council (SCC) and Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) started working towards the procurement of a partner with the aim of establishing a social enterprise venture to manage and run the Council's Learning Disabilities Provider Service (LDPS). (See [issue 38 of this newsletter, January 2015](#))

The Learning Disabilities (LD) Programme Board subsequently approved an extension to the deadline for the final submission of the commercial part of the bids. This was to enable further discussions with the two bidders (Dimensions UK and Brandon Trust), with the aim of ensuring the best bids possible.

The LD Programme Board is now able to confirm that SCC and Somerset CCG were unable to proceed with the Brandon Trust's bid. SCC and Somerset CCG needed to be fully reassured that the arrangements of the social enterprise venture would work. Although the Brandon Trust showed a high level of commitment to the process, their initial consortium arrangements fell through, and there were concerns about their alternative plans.

The LD Programme Board will now be taking just the one submission from Dimensions UK through the remaining procurement process.

Due to the above changes the LD Programme Board has looked at the planned timeline and decided that it needs to be extended, to ensure there is sufficient time to complete a thorough decision making process. The new approved timeline is as follows: the plans will be going to the June Scrutiny meeting (29 June 2016) and July Cabinet meeting (11 July 2016) for a decision based on the outcome of the procurement process. That will mean that the decision will now be made public on Wednesday 27 July 2016.

The Programme Board would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in this process for their commitment and hard work, in particular the service users, parents and carers who gave up their time to be involved.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact [Tim Archer](#), Head of Joint Commissioning, or [Eelke Zoestbergen](#), Joint Head of Learning Disabilities.

New Care Model Vanguard Celebrate Inspirational First Year

Editor

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Contact Us

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[New care model Vanguard](#)s across England have marked one year since the launch of the programme. The 50 Vanguards that are spread across different parts of the country are redesigning and transforming care for patients, communities and staff. Vanguards are part of the national new care models programme which is playing a key role in the delivery of the [Five Year Forward View](#) – the vision for the future of the NHS. [Samantha Jones, Director of the New Care Models Programme](#), has reflected on the progress made over the last year.

NHS England Publishes Business Plan

NHS England recently published the [Business Plan for 2016/17](#) which reflects the main themes of the government's mandate and embodies the agenda of the [Five Year Forward View](#). As with the previous plan, there remains strong continuity in the 10 business plan priorities for the year ahead. The priorities are grouped under the following themes: improving health, transforming care and controlling costs.
