



STP Bulletin

Updates from the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West
Sustainability and Transformation Partnership

February 2019

STP Develops Its Five Year Strategy and Response to the Long Term Plan

As reported in the December edition of this Bulletin, a five year BOB STP strategy is being developed to meet the health and care needs of our communities and to respond to the ambitions of the Long Term Plan, published last month.

By developing an STP-wide strategy, leaders will be better able to work effectively to address these challenges in a more efficient and effective way – making best use of the public funds invested across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West. Keeping to the principles of working at the most local level, wherever possible, the strategy will identify what elements should be led at local, place, STP and regional level; and what the role of the STP should be on each issue.

The Chief Executives Strategy Group agreed that the STP strategy would be developed in three phases - starting with a review to establish a common and shared understanding of the range of strategies in place to identify strengths, weaknesses, gaps and priorities.

The first phase has been completed. The review confirms that people living within the BOB STP area are healthier than average; there is good provision of health and care, with strong infrastructure and resources. However, there are a number of challenges. There is a rising population, due to significant development and an increasing older population. There are pockets of deprivation in some communities with real health inequalities within the generally healthy population. In addition, these challenges are set against low funding per person, affecting the total amount of money available to health and care organisations.

A number of possible common priorities within the STP were also identified - for example, quality and efficiency of care, delivering more integration, collaboration and financial sustainability. Clinical priorities included mental health, cancer and urgent care.

Further consideration is being given to where leaders within the STP could work together collectively to add value by working at scale. These might include, primary care, tackling workforce shortages and supporting services that are under pressure, including cancer and mental health referrals, particularly for children and young people.

We expect to work with partners and local communities as our draft strategy develops over the coming months. The Strategy will be submitted to NHS England in the summer of 2019. For further information on the NHS Long Term plan, visit www.longtermplan.nhs.uk

Commissioning Workstream Established

The NHS Long Term Plan describes how more joined-up, integrated care can be supported by commissioners making shared decisions where appropriate. Developing how services are commissioned is central to the NHS meeting the challenges it faces today and in the future, and in ensuring that the NHS delivers the triple aim of improved population health, quality of care and cost-control.

Whilst BOB STP has a placed-based focus, with each health and care system driving the transformation of services for their local communities, it has been recognised that by working together to review what commissioning takes place and at which level, commissioners can identify opportunities for more joined up decision making to reduce variation in cost or quality and improve patient outcomes.

The Commissioning Workstream is being led by Louise Patten, Chief Executive Officer of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire CCGs. The overall programme of work is divided into three areas; CCG commissioning, primary care commissioning and specialised commissioning.

A Steering Group and associated Working Groups have been set up, along with supporting programmes of work. CCG commissioning is led by Louise Patten, specialised commissioning is led by Janet Meek (Regional Director of Specialised Commissioning NHS England South) and primary care commissioning is led by Cathy Winfield, Chief Executive Officer of Berkshire West CCG.

The purpose of the review is to consider a number of areas, including:

- The level at which commissioning functions may be undertaken
- The existing joint commissioning arrangements between the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) within the partnership and opportunities for any further joint commissioning between CCGs
- The transition of the specialised commissioning steering group into a Planning Board to take forward the integration of specialised services at BOB STP level, with the STP initially having an advisory role
- How to further improve the sharing of information on spending on specialised commissioning to allow better decisions about how resources can be used for local population to drive sustainability
- What arrangements could be in place to support the commissioning of primary care, in line with the development of the BOB STP strategy, including a single strategy for primary care

The review will come up with a range of proposals for consideration by the Chief Executives' Strategy Group over the coming months.