



STP Bulletin

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

21 November 2018

Developing the Long Term Plan for the NHS

On 18th June the Prime Minister set out a funding settlement for the NHS in England for the next five years. In return, the NHS has been asked to set out its Long Term Plan for the future of the NHS, setting out ambitions for improvement over the next decade, and the plans to meet them over the five years of the funding settlement.

During the first half of 2019-20, Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) and Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) will be expected to develop and agree their strategic plans for improving quality, achieving sustainable balance and delivering the Long Term Plan for the NHS. The process will start with organisational plans, which will inform system plans and, in turn, influence the overarching STP plan. They will be developed with the proper engagement of all parts of each local health and care system.

The national plan will be published in the coming weeks. For further information about how it has been developed and next steps visit www.england.nhs.uk/long-term-plan/

STP Digital Bids Praised as Exemplar

In last month's bulletin we reported the approval by the Chief Executives' Strategy Group of a prioritised list of digital schemes that would significantly improve patient care in the STP patch. These proposals have been signed off by the national NHS England team. Business cases are now being finalised, before being submitted to the Treasury for approval to draw down funding.

Drive to Improve Waiting Times for Planned Care

Work is underway to assess what changes could be made to improve how quickly patients can have planned operations for gynaecology and urology.

The STP is carrying out a "capacity planning" process to look at all of the resources required and available to deliver these planned treatments, including equipment, rooms and the people with the necessary skills. It is matching what is available where against the demand for treatment and this will include work around reducing the number of cancellations both for out-patient appointments and surgery. This will help to make sure patients are seen in a timely manner and receive a safe, high quality service. At the moment, the STP is working through all of the information it has received, cross-checking and validating it, so that an implementation plan can be developed and agreed.

James Drury Joins STP Team

James Drury has joined the STP team from Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, where he held the post of Finance Director. Amongst other things he will be focused on overseeing the STP's response to the NHS Long Term Plan, developing the STP role in commissioning, supporting the delivery of the partnership's involvement in the Thames Valley and Surrey Local Health and Care Records Exemplar (*see the July STP bulletin*) and governance arrangements for the recently secured digital funds.