

Stakeholder News

Black Country and West Birmingham Sustainability and Transformation Partnership

Welcome to the latest edition of 'Stakeholder News' from the Black Country and West Birmingham Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP). The STP is a partnership of 18 health and care organisations that share a vision to improve the life expectations of the diverse communities living in the Black Country. It includes local authorities, hospitals and other health providers and our local clinical commissioners. This newsletter will keep you up to date with some of our key projects. To find out more about our partnership go to our dedicated [web page](#).

Helen's Blog



The much anticipated ten-year plan for the NHS was launched this month. The plan, developed by NHS England and NHS Improvement, guides the investment of an extra £20.5bn and sets out how services will change and improve, focusing on a drive towards an integrated health and social care system.

Some of the ways the Long Term Plan aims to improve patient care is by making sure everyone gets the best start in life, that world-class care is delivered to people with major health problems and that we support people to age well.

There is a strong emphasis on children and young people, in particular with them having better access to mental health services both in schools and other health settings. Along with this, will be a new focus on prevention, personal responsibility and promoting good health.

To enable all this to happen, the NHS will grow and support their workforce and will invest in new technologies to bring services into

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the digital age.

Overall, this represents a clear shift towards preventing ill health and locally, we will use the priorities in the plan to identify new ways of working which enables services to be better coordinated around the needs of local people.

Over the Spring/Summer we will be working closely with our partners to create opportunities for local patients, the public and staff to tell us what matters most to them and to help us determine how services need to adapt and improve over the next five years. This will allow us to develop a plan that truly reflects the current and future needs of service users.

As ever, collaborative working will be pivotal to achieving the aspirations set out in the Long Term Plan. It is important that we continue on our journey towards integrated health and care services, both in our neighbourhoods and across the Black Country and West Birmingham. Through doing this, we will increasingly take collective responsibility for improving the health and wellbeing of our vibrant population.

With this in mind, 2019 is likely to be a busy year for us, firstly as we grow and strengthen our integrated health and care relationships and most importantly when we take the time to involve and listen to the views of our local communities.

View the full version of the [NHS Long Term Plan](#) or read a [short two-page summary](#).

Dr Helen Hibbs

Senior Responsible Officer, Black Country and West Birmingham
STP

News from around the Partnership

GP Retention Intensive Support Site Update

The GP Retention Intensive Support Site (GPRISS) team have now reached the halfway mark in supporting local GPs to stay in the General Practice workforce. By promoting a range of workforce schemes to local GPs and their practices, the GPRISS team have engaged with over 200 GPs, which is a great achievement.

Dr Rajiv Kalia, GP and Clinical Lead for GP Retention at the Black Country and West Birmingham STP said, “The GPRISS has produced wonderful results which I and the team are very proud of. As this month’s update shows, we have been able to reach a wide number of GPs from across all CCGs and are helping to connect not only GPs together, but also other health care teams. The GPRISS has also been able to help PCNs in their development and with the options available, we can support at an individual, practice or system-wide level. We are happy to help in any way we can please contact our team as soon as possible so we can help to make general practice more enjoyable on a day to day basis.”

The STP to date have received 296 expressions of interest from local GPs, including 213 applications to access support, both career and practice-based. The workforce schemes encourage local GPs to stay in General Practice and offer:

- Up to £10,000 for training
- Flexible working opportunities
- A network for newly qualified GPs/early career GPs/GP trainees
- Peer support and career mentorship and coaching
- Collaborative arrangements to support both individual GPs and their practices
- Opportunities for continued professional development (CPD) credits and career development.

For more information visit the [GPRISS webpage](#).

Local clinicians work together to improve health and care services

Clinicians from across the Black Country and West Birmingham are working together to improve the lives of local people by agreeing health priorities and championing collaboration.

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The clinicians meet monthly as part of an STP Clinical Leadership Group, chaired by Professor Nick Harding, a local GP and Chair of Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Dr Jonathan Odum, Medical Director at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust undertakes the role of vice-chair and Sally Roberts supports the group as the STP Chief Nurse.

Over the last year, the Clinical Leadership Group have developed a clinical strategy with 12 priority areas and are actively supporting local organisations to work closer together to deliver better health, better care and better value of services to the local population. The clinical strategy aims to support health and care organisations to collectively raise the quality of services and commit to a culture of continuous improvement and co-production.

At a recent meeting, participants discussed aligning the priorities set out in the NHS Long Term Plan to the health priorities in the locally produced clinical strategy. The delivery of urgent and emergency care during the busy winter months was also a key topic of discussion, along with performance on cancer diagnosis and treatment.

During the Spring/Summer, clinical leaders will undertake a series of engagement events with local GPs, clinical staff, patients and the public to listen to their views and experiences of the 12 priority areas identified in the strategy.

Useful Links

NHS England Future Health and Care Bulletin - 'Homefirst' scheme reduces unnecessary stays in hospital.

Met Office Weather Ready Campaign
Weather-related advice covering health, travel, and property is available on the [Met Office website](#).

Latest NHS England Blogs

[Long term action for Allied Health Professions](#)

The Chief Allied Health Professions Officer looks at the NHS Long Term Plan and what it means for the Allied Health Professions (AHPs): With over 20 commitments that explicitly reference our services, and many more of direct relevance, the NHS Long Term Plan is significant for the 14 allied health professions.

[Thank you is not enough](#)

NHS England's National Mental Health Director gives her views on the NHS Long Term Plan and what it means for the future.