

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. To find out more about our partnership go to our dedicated [web page](#).

Helen's Blog



As a partnership, we are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people in the Black Country and West Birmingham and a key ingredient for delivering this is through collaboration.

Across our neighbourhoods, Primary Care Networks (PCNs) have been established to bring together groups of GPs and a range of community services who are making exciting plans to improve the access and coordination of primary care services. A key feature of practices working together is introducing new roles into general practice which will help GPs focus their skills on where they are most needed. This year, our practices will be working with pharmacists and social prescribers to offer personalised care and treatment to patients. In future years, local people will see an increase in the number of paramedics, physiotherapists and physicians' associates working in our GP practices.

All of our PCNs have a Clinical Director and the STP has been working with these leads to ensure greater collaboration and alignment to the STP. I was delighted to speak to PCN leads about the future of integrated care in the Black Country and West Birmingham. PCNs are now represented on the STP Board, allowing system leaders to be engaged in the development of proactive, personalised and co-ordinated primary care services.

In each of our place-based areas (Dudley, Sandwell and West

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Birmingham, Walsall and Wolverhampton), Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), their NHS providers and Councils are working together to commission and deliver joined-up health and care services to their populations. In support of this, our four CCGs will continue to work towards a single commissioning voice by 2021 and are currently out to advert to recruit a single Accountable Officer for the Black Country and West Birmingham CCGs.

At a system-level, it is great to see how some services are being delivered collaboratively across the Black Country and West Birmingham – joined-up working across services such as pathology and maternity, are making a real difference and I look forward to seeing this work expand across other services where it makes sense to do so.

From a regional perspective, our STP Board held a joint meeting with Birmingham and Solihull STP to discuss the development of the Midland Metropolitan Hospital as well as discuss areas where we can work together. Sessions such as these, allow for greater discussion on how we can all work across our organisational boundaries to deliver better health and care.

Collaborating across the Black Country and West Birmingham will be integral to how we deliver integrated health and care services over the next five years. As we develop our five-year plan, it is essential that we listen to the views of local people, ensuring their feedback and experiences inform our local priorities. I would like to thank our local Healthwatch organisations who recently undertook engagement work on our behalf and presented an insightful report to the STP Board on the experiences and views of local people who use health and social care services in the Black Country and West Birmingham.

Dr Helen Hibbs MBE

Senior Responsible Officer, Black Country and West Birmingham STP

Stroke Service Success



Care of stroke patients in Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital is the best in the West Midlands, according to a national healthcare programme.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust is in the top 40 of 216 trusts across the country for both its clinical

care of patients and organisation of its stroke services.

"We are delighted with this recognition of the excellent care our stroke team provide to patients," said Trust chief executive Diane Wake. "This is a service constantly striving to improve with the aim of being the best in the country for stroke patients."

The Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP) measures the quality and organisation of stroke care in the NHS and is the single source of stroke data in the UK.

Its overall aim is to provide timely information to clinicians, commissioners, patients and the public on how well stroke care is being delivered so it can be used as a tool to improve the quality of care provided to patients.

The Dudley Group has a Level A rating. Contributing to this are twice-daily ward rounds led by consultants so important clinical decisions are made, and imaging carried out within national clinical guidelines.

There is a 24-hour specialist nurse-led bleep cover for all stroke referrals, with ambulance crews alerting the team that a stroke patient is being brought in.

It provides all forms of care for stroke patients including 24/7 thrombolysis (clot dissolving treatment) and a new service called mechanical thrombectomy in conjunction with Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

"The stroke service works as a multi-disciplinary team with everyone working together to ensure the best outcome for all patients after a stroke," said Diane.

"We also work with Dudley Stroke Association which provides support to patients and families after discharge from hospital."

The stroke service received a 'good' rating in its most recent CQC inspection.

Picture caption: Members of the multi-disciplinary team who care for stroke patients

New Partnership to Deliver Diabetes Prevention Programme

From 1st August 2019, the Healthier You: Diabetes Prevention Programme will be delivered by a new provider, Ingeus UK, who are working with GPs to help people across the Black Country and West Birmingham reduce their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

The programme, which gives advice on dieting, exercise and healthy lifestyle, is being doubled in size over the next few years as part of the NHS Long Term Plan's renewed focus on prevention.

In the UK, around 22,000 people with diabetes die early every year and five million people in England are at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

Across the Black Country and West Birmingham, it is estimated that around 120,000 people are living with Type 2 diabetes, which is closely linked to obesity, and there is strong evidence that in many it could be prevented or delayed.

A lack of exercise, poor diet and being overweight are all risk factors for developing the disease. Patients who are 'at risk' will be identified by GPs and referred into the programme, which is designed to prevent or delay onset of Type 2 diabetes through a range of personalised lifestyle interventions, including:

- education on lifestyle choices
- advice on how to reduce weight through healthier eating
- bespoke physical activity programmes

Stephen from Dudley is one of thousands of residents to benefit from the NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme. He is now urging others to check whether they may be at risk of the disease and take action on improving their own health. After eight weeks on the programme, Stephen said, "I feel better and I have more control over my body. My quality of life is improving".

Dr Ruth Tapparro, Clinical Lead for diabetes prevention at Dudley CCG and a practising GP, said: "Diabetes can cause serious long-term health problems, which is why it's so important to help people to stop the condition from developing.

"As part of the Diabetes Prevention Programme GPs are inviting people they know to be at high risk to enrol for tailored help, which includes education on healthy eating and lifestyle changes, and bespoke physical exercise programmes, all of which together have been proven to reduce the risk of developing the disease.

So far over 17,000 people across the Black Country and West Birmingham have already been referred onto the NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme, and national figures show that those

who attended most of the healthy living sessions lost an average of 3.4kg each.

If you think you could be at risk contact your GP practice, alternatively you can check to see if you are at risk of type 2 diabetes at [diabetes.org.uk/risk](https://www.diabetes.org.uk/risk).”

Access to the Healthier You programme will be through GP referral, however members of the public can find out if they are at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by visiting <https://www.diabetes.org.uk/riskscore>

Black Country Pharmacist wins national NHS Parliamentary Award



Earlier in July, Olutayo Arikawe (*pictured left*), The Priory Community Pharmacy in Dudley, West Midlands was honoured in Parliament as part of the NHS Parliamentary Awards, sponsored by FUJI Film and the Premier League, to recognise the massive contribution made by the individuals who work in and alongside the NHS.

She won the Excellence in Healthcare Award category and was nominated by Ian Austin MP. She was among winners announced at the awards final ceremony held today at the Palace of Westminster's Terrace Pavilion, hosted by Dr Sara Kayat, NHS GP & TV Doctor.

Since March MPs in England have been asked to nominate individuals and teams serving their constituents across 10 categories. Regional champions were selected in June, with the national winners chosen by a panel of senior leaders representing NHS staff and patients.

There were hundreds of nominations made by more than 230 MPs and Olutayo won her award for the way in which she takes the Priory Community Pharmacy right out into the community – holding prevention awareness events for falls, Type 2 Diabetes and cancer in care homes, workplaces and local colleges as well as organizing healthchecks on cholesterol and blood pressure.

Ian Austin MP for Dudley North said: "I am thrilled to see Olutayo recognised alongside today's NHS Parliamentary winners. She encapsulates the amazing work of NHS staff and volunteers across the West Midlands. The NHS is a much-loved institution and it is people like Olutayo who help make it so. She is a passionate supporter and encourages the general well-being of

her community. Her pharmacy is part of the fabric of the local community, a place people want to visit.”

Nigel Sturrock, Regional Medical Director NHS England and NHS Improvement (Midlands) said: “I am delighted to see a Midlands winner today. Olutayo Arikawe exemplifies the good things that can happen when people share their passion for healthcare. She lives and breathes the values of the NHS and this award recognises her excellent work. I would also like to pay tribute to all the other Midlands nominees whose amazing work and dedication is reflected in the way the NHS runs every single day.”

National award for midwives



Two midwives from Russells Hall Hospital have been given a national award after their intervention proved life-saving for a dad-to-be who attended a routine antenatal appointment.

Midwives Julie Hughes and Tracey Jones received the national Cavell Star Award from Anne Groucutt, after Julie and Tracey spotted that her son Sam Hutchins was clearly poorly and insisted he was seen by doctors straight away.

Sam, 24, of Quarry Bank, has been diagnosed with aplastic anaemia and mum Anne, a staff nurse at the hospital, says that without their action Sam would not be alive.

She nominated them for a Star Award from the Cavell Nurses' Trust and was delighted to make a surprise presentation to them.

“If it hadn't been for the midwives, Sam wouldn't be here today. They followed their gut instincts, and I cannot thank them enough,” says Anne, who works on surgical outpatients. “I was thrilled when I got the call to say they had been approved for the award.”

Edith Cavell was a British nurse during the First World War. She is celebrated for saving the lives of soldiers from both sides and in helping over 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium. In 1915 she was put to death by a German firing squad, despite international pressure for mercy. In 1917 a fund was begun in her memory and this is now the Cavell Nurses' Trust.

The Trust provides help to nursing professionals in hardship but also has a national awards programme, Cavell Star Awards, which are given to nurses, midwives, nursing associates and healthcare assistants who shine bright and show exceptional care.

Sam, who is a chef at Hickory's Smokehouse in Wall Heath, has been cared for on the

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Georgina ward and is now due to have chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant. Anne had her head shaved in aid of the ward and breast care, raising £1,159.61.

She is also raising awareness of how to join the stem cell register, which can be found at www.dkms.org.uk

Aplastic anaemia is a rare condition in which the bone marrow stops making new blood cells.

Picture caption - Anne Groucutt presents the Cavell Star Awards to Tracey Jones (left) and Julie Hughes

National recognition for Dudley Group anaesthetics

Anaesthetists at Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust have been recognised for providing the highest quality care to their patients by achieving the prestigious [Anaesthesia Clinical Services Accreditation \(ACSA\)](#) from the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCOA).

ACSA promotes quality improvement and the highest standards of anaesthetic service. To receive accreditation, departments demonstrate high standards in areas such as patient experience, patient safety and clinical leadership, meeting 100% in all areas.

It means patients at The Dudley Group can be assured they are receiving outstanding service. Dudley is the first Trust in the West Midlands to become accredited, and only the 33rd in the UK.

Dr Adrian Jennings, ACSA lead for The Dudley Group, said: "In challenging times for the NHS and NHS staff, ACSA has given us something very positive to pursue.

"It offered an opportunity to galvanise the department towards a shared goal, generating some positive feedback and reward.

"Finally achieving ACSA has been an amazing success for the Trust and we all feel immensely proud. We have had lots of congratulations from colleagues across the Trust.

"We can now clearly evidence our care is of a high standard and hope this will bring further benefits in terms of recruitment and staff retention'.

Trust chief executive Diane Wake said: "We are delighted that the hard work of this team to provide the best possible care for patients has been recognised. It's great news for people coming in to our Trust for operations, which can naturally be a worrying time. This shows how much care we put in to looking after them at every stage."

[Professor Ravi Mahajan](#), President of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, said: "I would like to offer my personal congratulations to the entire anaesthetic department on achieving ACSA accreditation. It is richly deserved and demonstrates their commitment to providing the best possible care for their patients.

"Patient engagement is a key focus of what we do as a medical Royal College and it was

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impressive to see the integration of services from doctors to support staff developing and enhancing the quality of care they provide across the hospital.

“As well as meeting the standards, the department demonstrated many areas of excellent innovative practice that have now been highlighted for sharing throughout the ACSA network.”

Dr Kate Glennon, ACSA lead reviewer, added: “Heartfelt congratulations go to this hardworking team of doctors and support staff and services.

“Some notable areas included the imaginative use of IT systems to improve process and the patient journey, the familiarisation of staff to the department and particularly remote site anaesthesia and the complete overhaul of the pre-operative pathway.

“The high regard afforded by the rest of the hospital for the anaesthetic body was evident throughout the visit. There is much excellent practice to commend Dudley for, and to share with others.”

Latest NHS England Blogs

[Improving access to psychological therapies and long term conditions: what do the evaluations tell us?](#)

New evaluations show that improving mental health treatment for people with long term conditions such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease leads to better outcomes for patients and reduced costs for the NHS. Professor David M Clark, one of the founders of the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies programme (IAPT), examines the findings.

[Keeping our people and communities safe](#)

The Director of Nursing in NHS England and Deputy Chief Nursing Officer NHS England/Improvement explains the reforms to ensure the safeguarding of children and other vulnerable people.