

Minutes of: HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 10 February 2015

Present: Councillor P Bury (in the Chair)
Councillors Adams, E Fitzgerald, L Fitzwalter, J Grimshaw,
S Haroon, K Hussain, Kerrison, Mallon, T Pickstone, S Smith
and R Walker

Also in attendance: John Boyington - Chairman - Bury GP Federation
Linda Jackson - Assistant Director – Adult Care Services

Public Attendance: 1 member of the public was present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Michelle Armstrong - Chief Officer - Bury GP Federation

HSC.687 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Walker declared a personal interest in any item relating to the Radcliffe Pilot as the medical centre he was registered with fell within that pilot.

Councillor Grimshaw declared a personal interest in any item relating the CCG as she was a member of the Patients' Cabinet.

HSC.688 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was agreed:

That the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 27 January 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

HSC.689 MATTERS ARISING

1. Councillor Walker referred to Minute HSC.645 – Better Care Fund Submission and referred to the resolution that an update would be brought to a future meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Walker asked if a more specific timeframe could be given so that it was ensured that the action was followed up.

Councillor Bury explained that the forward plan of the Committee would be the first item that the new Committee would discuss at the first meeting of the 2015/2016 Municipal Year.

Linda Jackson, Assistant Director explained that the Better Care fund would commence in April 2015 and it would be likely that a report be brought to this Committee around October 2015.

HSC.690 GP FEDERATION UPDATE - PRIME MINISTER'S CHALLENGE FUND

John Boyington, Chair of the Bury GP Federation presented members with an

update on the work of the GP Federation and focussing on the successful Prime Minister's Challenge Fund bid.

It was explained that the GP Federation was a company Limited by shares which was incorporated in November 2103. There were originally 26 GP practice members who jointly invested £250 000 to establish the federation and a further 4 had since joined.

It was explained that the GP Federation had been commissioned to work with the Radcliffe GP practices to help set up and operate the Healthier Radcliffe Pilot.

Work had also been carried out to assist with the winter pressures that GP surgeries were under during the winter season and had seen surgeries providing extra hours to assist with this.

The objective of the Prime Minister's Challenge Fund had been to:-

- Pilot improvements in access to appointments;
- Promote innovation, share learning and deliver benefits to patients;
- Explore a variety of ways to extend access including:
 - Longer opening hours
 - Greater flexibility of access - e.g. multiple site access
 - Greater use of
- Technology
- Online services
- Telehealth

The GP federation had submitted the 'Bury Easy-GP' bid which was presented as a document setting out vision and ambition and included:

- Extended working hours -
 - 6.30 - 8pm Monday to Friday
 - 8am - 6pm Saturday and Sunday
- Increasing the number of patients registered for online access
- Offering telephone consultations to all patients instead of face to face
- Developing a comparison style website.

John reported that the proposed models for service delivery had been accepted by all members who are collaborating to increase online registration, a telephone consultation option and to deliver extended working hours.

The extended working hours model was based on having 5 sites strategically placed around the borough with a planned offering of 1420 extra appointments per week. It was explained that currently all partner GPs were being given the option to work extended hours at a rate of £80 ph. Those GPs offering the extended hours would have read and write access to all Bury patients' medical records which would allow for a bury patient to access any of the sites across the borough.

It was explained that the service was just ramping up to capacity and there had been issues with IT.

The extended working hours was currently at 50% of the expected capacity providing an extra 700 appointment per week.

There was currently no prescription printing solution available.

GPs had been slow to come forward but recruitment was now picking up.

John reported that the initial funding from the Challenge Fund would deliver services to May 2015. Additional funds had however been allocated which would extend services to November 2015 and allow for further evaluation

The Clinical Commissioning Group were committed to funding an Extended Working Hours service but were waiting for the evaluation feedback before determining how the service would be delivered.

Those present were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments and the following points were raised:-

- Councillor Fitzwalter referred to the 5 sites across the borough that had been identified to provide the extended working hours. Tottington Medical Centre had been identified as the site for the north of the Borough but it was barely up and running due to issues with access to rooms and GPs from Ramsbottom not having capacity to provide extra hours. Councillor Fitzwalter explained that the service was currently only offering 2 hours on a Saturday and 2 hours on a Sunday.

John explained that the GP Federation were aware that access to practices in Tottington had been difficult but they were committed to ensure that full capacity was provided. The Federation were recruiting GPs and the issue of rooms was being addressed. It was explained that the evaluation of the uptake of the use of extended hours services would be based on the capacity available.

- Councillor Pickstone asked how much funding had and would be received.

John reported that the initial Challenge Fund amount had been £2.7m and an extra £600,000 had been secured from April 2015.

- Councillor Mallon asked what reassurances were in place in relation to patients' records if sharing these across the borough.

John explained that the IT systems in use were national systems and security was of the utmost importance. There were issues with the systems allowing the sharing of files and these were being worked through.

- Councillor Mallon asked whether there was a shortage of GPs in Bury and whether this was having an impact on recruitment.

John explained that he wasn't aware of any shortfall across the borough but the Federation were relying on the existing stock of GPs to provide the service and not all of them wanted to take up the offer.

- Councillor Adams stated that the online registration needed to be made

easier as at the moment it was quite difficult to do and would put some people off.

- Councillor Walker asked when it was likely that the out of hours service would have full access to medical records.

John stated that he wasn't sure of the timescale but it was being worked on and the issue would be solved.

- Councillor Grimshaw referred to the way that access was spread across the borough and asked whether this would be changed as some areas may require more access due to logistics.

John stated that this was the model that had been agreed on for the pilot but this could change after the evaluation exercise was completed.

- Councillor Kerrison asked how the extended hours would work for GPs. Would they be extra hours or a change to their working week.

John explained that it would be up to the GP how they worked but all GPs working hours would be monitored.

It was agreed

1. That John be thanked for his presentation
2. That a progress report be brought to the Committee once the evaluation had been carried out.

HSC.691 GP FEDERATION - HEALTHIER RADCLIFFE EVALUATION REPORT

John Boyington, Chair of the Bury GP Federation gave a presentation explaining the background, objectives and progress of the Healthier Radcliffe pilot and the initial results and feedback following 12 months operation of the scheme.

It was explained that the objectives of Healthier Radcliffe were:-

1.
 - Extend access to local GP and primary care services at one point of access
 - Access to local GP s 8 am - 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am - 6pm Saturday and Sunday
 - Patients will be seen by a local clinician who has access to their health records
2.
 - Integrating other providers and partners such as hospitals, commuity and social services to provide better joined up care in the community at one point of contact
 - Health education and information programmes.

The progress made was explained:-

- 1.

- Planning carried out between July and September 2013
- Design, agreement, IT enablement, mobilisation and communication delivered over 3 months enabling governance structures
- Successful service went live 2 December 2013 providing 1000 appointments each month

2.

- Two integrated workshops held October 2013 and February 2014
- Provider bids invited and submitted during June/July 2014
- 'Well being' commissioners review of bids feeding into GP Federation approval on 3 August 2014
- Enhanced project management August 2014
- Services mobilised between October 2014 and January 2015.

John reported that four projects had been added to Healthier Radcliffe and these were:-

- North West Ambulance Service - "Green Car" Paramedic which had seen a 60% deflection of 999 calls
- Multi disciplinary Team and Reablement
- Domiciliary Medication Optimisation - targeting the 200 patients with the most complex medication needs
- Targeted Early Intervention

There had been significant media coverage of Healthier Radcliffe and all attendances of Radcliffe patients at hospital had reduced in all 4 areas. It was also reported that walk in centre activity had reduced and patient feedback was positive.

It was explained that the first draft of the evaluation report was due to be received by the GP Federation in mid February 2015.

John also reported that Healthier Radcliffe had been nominated for a British Medical Journal Award and some of the staff working on the scheme were attending a parliamentary event in London to celebrate good working practices.

Those present were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments and the following points were raised:-

- Councillor FitzGerald asked whether there were any indications that new patients were now attending as appointment times were more accessible.

John stated that he was not aware of this but it could be a possibility.

- Councillor Walker referred to the fact that Mile Lane Surgery was included within the scheme even though it was located in Bury and asked whether the figures would include the Mile Lane Surgery patients.

It was explained that if they had attended the services provided then they would be included in the figures.

It was agreed:

1. That the information be noted
2. That the outcome of the evaluation be reported to the Committee when it had been finalised.

COUNCILLOR P BURY
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.30 pm)