

## **Brief for Stuart North to provide a verbal update for Health Scrutiny Committee, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

### **Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contracts**

- NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS England are jointly responsible for local contracting arrangements for GP Practices in the borough.
- In March 2017, two Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) GP contracts are due to end; these relate to the contracts for Rock Healthcare in Bury and The RLC Surgery in Radcliffe.
- These contracts differs to most in the borough. At the time they were set up they were time limited, as part of a national approach to test out new ways of delivering GP services.
- All registered heads of household for these two GP Practices received a letter at the start of February 2016 to inform them that the contracts were due to come to an end and that as part of a review of the needs of the local population there was a need for us to understand, and for patients to help shape, what should be provided in the future.
- The contracts aren't due to come to an end until the March 2017 and therefore, no immediate changes will take place, and patients have been reassured that their Practice will remain open and there will be no immediate changes to the services they currently access.
- In considering these two GP services, the CCG and NHS England jointly examined a wide range of factors including equity and patient choice, existing services, value for money, premises and population growth.
- Based on the work we have done to date, we believe that there is still a requirement for a GP practice in both of these areas. However, the way that patients access GP services in the evening and at the weekend may change.
- Patients were given the opportunity to complete a survey online or in hard copy format so that their views could be captured, and key stakeholders were contacted to give them the opportunity to share views to help shape this process.
- The period of engagement closed on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Over 300 patient responses were received to the survey.
- We are reviewing all available feedback and options prior to making a decision at our joint Primary Care committee which meets in public.
- Patients will be kept informed of the outcome of the period of engagement and any decision through established mechanisms.