

Launch of West GP+ (Extended primary Care Service)

The West launch of GP+ will commence towards the end of November 2015 in a Bury practice. Opening hours will be Weekdays 6.30pm to 9pm (a single shift) and Weekends/ Bank Holidays 10am to 3pm (single shift).

We have written individually to all GPs in the West with details of how to work in the service and the inductions on 20 and 27 October in Bury. If you have not received it, want more information or to visit the Ipswich site please email sally.white@suffolkfed.org.uk.

Ipswich GP+

This has now been operating for nearly four weeks. Key points so far:

- 42 GPs are now inducted to work in the service of which only 15 currently do OOH. Feedback from those doing shifts is positive, particularly with the role of Shift Leader who only has a small number of booked appointments but manages the session and deals with A&E/ambulances.
- Ambulances have been diverting to the service, particularly at weekends and A&E transferring patients post a clinician to clinician conversation. Once we have resolved technical issues 111 will be able to book into the service.
- Most East practices can now use the service. As expected Ipswich practices are making the majority of bookings.
- Last week 39% of slots were filled. We have tweaked booking so weekend appointments, particularly Saturday afternoon and Sunday all day, are available earlier in the week.
- We are liaising with A&E, OOH/111 and practices in order to put in plenty of capacity over Xmas/new Year, particularly the first working days after both Bank Holidays.
- The service will be formally launched on 17 October and is likely to feature in the local press.

GP Fellowship Scheme

We have had interest from 12 newly qualified GPs in the scheme (which is significantly better than in neighbouring counties) including some from outside Suffolk. Fellows are able to combine 7 sessions in practice with 2 additional

clinical sessions and a funded Masters. There is a broad range of interest from CCG commissioning projects to dermatology and occupational health.

We have had strong interest in our Leading the Way development programme for newly qualified GPs.

Pharmacists in primary care pilot

We have submitted a £220,000 bid to NHS England to pilot pharmacists working in primary care. 7 practices are involved (Christmas Maltings/Clements, Deben Road, Debenham, Derby Road, Grove, Stowhealth and Woolpit). If successful, the pilot will focus on:

- Direct access for patients with medication problems e.g. repeat prescribing and answering queries.
- Better use of medicines e.g. post discharge, care homes and liaising with the hospitals.
- Long term condition management.

Our proposal will see four pharmacists employed by the Fed but working in practices. The Ipswich & East CCG have kindly contributed £27k to the costs as not all of these are covered by NHSE.



West Suffolk leg ulcers

The Fed has written to West Suffolk Hospital which has lead responsibility for the community services contract post Serco. Our letter asks them to confirm they will continue the Bury/Blackbourne LES post March 2016 and also reimburse other practices for the work when SCH lack capacity. We will keep you informed of progress.

Advanced Leadership Development Programme

This is for experienced GPs in the 30-40 age bracket who are keen to develop their leadership skills in order to play an more prominent role in helping the health economy of Suffolk to move forward. It is 3 two day modules running in the New Year. We have a limited number of places and if you are interested David Pannell has more details.

Integrated Care Organisations

We promised to keep members up to date with developments in the two ICOs. At this stage we have mostly discussed the challenges facing both healthcare systems, particularly recruiting/retaining our workforce and financial pressures. We will formally report back when there is something concrete to discuss.



Community Education Provider Networks (CEPN)

These are designed to address the issues we have developing our primary care workforce and put us on a level playing field with our hospitals. The Fed was part of the West bid and if successful will focus on, amongst other things, nurse training e.g. pre and post-registration placements. Longer term there are opportunities to also develop GP training. We are interested in also bidding for a CEPN in the East.

Members' Agreement

The draft agreement is with your PM. Key points are:

- The business of the Federation is strengthening, supporting and developing primary care. It is a not for profit community interest company that will not pay a dividend.

- Member practices have various obligations including acting in the spirit of working together.
- New member practices can join by applying to the Board. If a practices wishes to leave it will only receive a nominal sum for its shares.
- The Board is responsible for supervising and managing the organisation. Elections will be held for up to 9 GP directors (1 per locality and 3 for Ipswich) and 3 PMs. The GP electorate is any GP working in primary healthcare in Suffolk. The Board also includes the CEO and up to three co-opted directors. A director cannot also be a member of a CCG/Clinical Executive. GP directors can be removed if a majority in a locality pass a resolution.
- The Board elects the Chair who serves for a two year term.

Please return any comments by 23 October. After this we will finalise the legal document and it will need to be approved by practices representing 75% of the Federation's shares.

Fed accounts for 2014/15

These have now been prepared by BDO and show a turnover of £4m (£1m 2013/14) and a surplus of £30,599 after tax. If you would like a copy of the accounts please email David Pannell.

Primary care mental health tender

As we reported last month both CCGs and SCC are tendering primary care mental health services including wellbeing/ IAPT, CAMHS, non-psychotic services and Children and Young People. The Fed is working with North Essex Partnership, Suffolk Mind and Anglia Care Trust.

We will be writing to all practices asking for comments on the partnership's proposed clinical model which has been developed by a group of local GPs and mental health clinicians. It is partially based on a successful service in Sandwell in the West Midlands. We are excited about this tender as it is a real opportunity to improve the services.

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