

Options for Suffolk primary care

The December meetings on Options for Suffolk Primary Care has stimulated a good debate amongst members. The Fed will initiate a series of actions over the next few months designed to support these discussions including:

- **Practices interested in exploring super-partnership and who have shared accounts** - there will be a follow-up workshop on the evening of 28 January. This is designed to work-up a local model and there is no obligation going forward.

To support the workshop we have published a discussion paper exploring the types of new clinical model a super-partnerships could implement and which retain continuity but allows workload to be managed more effectively. Follow-up papers will look at finance, governance, property etc.

We will publish notes from the workshop.

- **Practices wanting to know more about options for primary care but not sharing accounts at this time**
 - On 28 January (1.30pm) there will be an open meeting with Ross Clark, a lawyer from Hempsons, who will run through the legal aspects of forming a super-partnership. Please email David Pannell if you want to attend.
 - David Pannell is available to attend you practice if you wish to run through the different options for primary care going forward.
 - When details of the voluntary 2017 contract are available we will prepare a programme of support for interested practices.
 - The Federation's management team is available to support practices in the West interested in clustering.
- **'Federative' working**— Some members would like an example of 'federative working' and we will prepare a no cost offer for members covering LES reporting. This will include all the work needed to practically implement new LES and LES reporting. This will include a process whereby the Fed automatically extracts data, practices validate, claims are submitted automatically and practices are then paid in the normal way.

GP+ update

- GP+ is now full operational in the West at Swan Surgery in Bury. The formal opening is pictured below with the Bury MP Jo Churchill.



- The service runs Weekdays 6.30pm to 9pm and Weekends/Bank Holidays 9am to 2pm. Bury's utilisation is lower than Ipswich partly because West Suffolk Hospital is not diverting patients.
- To enable EMIS practices to easily book appointments the Fed has now purchased its own EMIS unit. We will have this set-up in the next fortnight so an EMIS practice can book a GP+ appointment without having to leave their own system. This will address the EMIS booking issue and replace the need for receptionists to make phone bookings.
- Ipswich GP+ has now provided over 3,000 appointments since it started in October. Over Christmas /New Year it provided 543 appointments of which 270 were from practices, 49 A&E diverts, 22 ambulance diverts and 192 via 111.
- To encourage practice booking of weekend appointments we will release all of these slots on the previous Monday at 12 noon. Please ask your receptionists to use them. Any free slots will be available to 111.

Information governance

IG regulation is becoming increasingly onerous, for example:

- Best practice is changing rapidly and new services, such as GP+, are posing new IG challenges.
- Each practice now has to have a SIRO (Senior Information Risk Owner) in addition to a Caldicott Guardian who attend annual training.
- The annual practice self-assessment IG Toolkit will start being audited from next year.

The Fed has completed a major overhaul of our IG with the support of an external expert. As a result we will:

- Now run face to face IG training to replace the online courses which most participants find boring and ineffectual. We are looking at the feasibility of offering these courses to members.
- Ask practice to sign a Federation Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) which will set-out the arrangement for sharing data, documents best practice and acts as an overarching agreement. Each project or service will then have an individual Standard Operating Procedure document which will be inserted as an annex but not require a signature each time. We are finalising this with the LMC and believe it will make Suffolk one of the leading areas for primary care IG in the country.

Primary care mental health bid

Along with our three partners, the Fed is at the final stages of a competitive tender to manage the primary care mental health service. We have put forward a really exciting primary care based integrated model.

West Suffolk leg ulcers

We are still chasing this with WSH. No progress so far.

Members' Agreement

Please return your signed Members' Agreement and changed Articles of Association as soon as possible. If you have not signed yet and have any questions please contact David Pannell.

Fed Board update

Scott Burley has decided to retire from the Board and we thank him for his work over the last two years.

The current Board is:

- CIA - Dr Paul Driscoll—Chair
- Bury/Blackbourne - Dr Crispin Dunn
- Deben Health Group - Dr Mike Barstow
- East PM—Jane Wallace
- Forest Health/Mildenhall - Dr Nick Raynor
- Haverhill/Sudbury - Dr Sriyangika Ratnayake
- West PM — Ann Sisson
- Ipswich - Dr Debs Banerjee and Dr David Ward
- Ipswich PM—Andrea Clarke
- Suffolk Brett Stour - Dr Simon Rudland
- Independent - Marilyn Martin
- CEO - David Pannell

Receiving this newsletter

If you are not receiving this directly please email Melissa.tooke@suffolkfed.org.uk.

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