

Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel
21.9.12
Key issues briefing note

B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group (B&NES CCG) update

B&NES CCG is the new organisation made up of local GPs that will be responsible for planning and arranging around £210 million-worth of health services when it takes over responsibilities from the primary care trust next April.

Appointments

Dr Ian Orpen has been confirmed as Chair of the CCG, following national assessment and support from local GPs.

Following interviews earlier this month, we have appointed the following to the CCG:

- Dr Simon Douglass as Clinical Accountable Officer
- Sarah James as Chief Finance Officer
- Tracey Cox as Chief Operating Officer

Clinical Accountable Officer and Chief Financial Officer status can only be confirmed by the NHS Commissioning Board (NHSCB) as part of the CCG authorisation process. As such both appointments are subject to approval from the NHSCB and will be appointed in a 'designate' capacity until B&NES CCG formally becomes a statutory body through authorisation. Their post will therefore become permanent following a successful authorisation process on April 1st 2013.

Two lay members have also been appointed to the Governing body. They are:
John Paul Sanders, lay member for Patient and Public Involvement
John Holden, audit, governance and vice chair.

Only two appointments remain: executive nurse and secondary care consultant. Interviews for both posts are expected to take place in October.

The CCG will approve the HR process for recruiting to the rest of the CCG structure at its next Clinical Commissioning Committee (CCC) meeting on September 27, 2012.

Authorisation

Before CCGs become legally constituted bodies they must go through a rigorous and extensive assessment process called authorisation. Work continues at a pace to complete the detailed, technical submission covering all 119 criteria across six domains before the end of September.

We expect an authorisation site visit in November, along with feedback which will help us with our development plan with the aim of becoming a legally constituted body from April 1 2013.

As part of authorisation IpsosMORI completed a 360 degree stakeholder survey. We had an 87% response rate which is excellent, so thank you to those of you who took part.

The results, which will be fed back to us from September 24, will give us further insight into how our relationships are developing, and guide our future plans.

Communication

Good communication and engagement with the public is essential to the success of these new ways of working in our area.

A website outlining our role and how we work for our local communities will be launched before October 1 - www.bathandnortheastsomersetccg.nhs.uk

We are also putting in place mechanisms for communication and engagement with the public, including patients and carers, and partner organisations.

Commissioning support service

Commissioning support across the country will be provided by 23 organisations known as commissioning support services. In essence commissioning support organisations will provide much of the backroom function not directly provided by the CCG.

B&NES and Wiltshire are part of the Central Southern Commissioning Support Service. Central Southern will be hosted by the National Commissioning Board through Local Area Teams from October 2012 which will offer more stability for staff.

Central Southern Commissioning Support Unit has presented us with a proposal for a package of support with indicative pricing. We are now looking at this and will be working on our final service specifications, with a view to agreement by the end of December.