

**CCG Briefing**  
**Well-Being Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel Meeting**  
**19<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

**Armed Forces Commissioning**

At a previous meeting, members of the panel asked for an update on the treatment of military veterans.

Under long-standing arrangements, war pensioners in England, Scotland and Wales have been given priority NHS treatment for the conditions for which they receive a war pension, subject to clinical need. This provision has now been extended to all veterans where a person has a health problem as result of their military service.

**How the process works**

When referring a patient who they know to be a Veteran for secondary (more specialist) care, GPs have now been asked to consider if, in their clinical opinion, the condition may be related to the patient's military service. Where this is the case, and with the patient's agreement, it should be made clear in the referral.

Where secondary care clinicians agree that a veteran's condition is likely to be Service-related, they have been asked to prioritise veterans over other patients with the same level of clinical need. Veterans will not be given priority over other patients with more urgent clinical needs. It is for the clinician in charge to determine whether a condition is related to Service and to allocate priority.

**Five Year Strategy on Armed Forces Commissioning**

The Armed Forces Health Commissioning is led by NHS England and the Bath, Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire (B,G,S&W) Area Team. They have recently produced the final draft of a five year strategy. A copy of this strategy has been shared with the CCG and is available on request.

Armed Forces health commissioners have entered into formal contracting arrangements with a total of 48 secondary care providers across England for 2014/15

**New CCG GP Appointed**

The CCG is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Daisy Curling to the vacant Sessional GP Board Member position. The appointment process included an interview which confirmed Dr Curling had the appropriate skills and experience. Her appointment was then confirmed by a GP vote, as required by the CCG Constitution, with 100% support.

### **Operational Resilience and Capacity Planning Update**

The newly created System Resilience Group (SRG), as mandated by NHS England has expanded the previous role, remit and responsibilities of the Urgent Care Working Group (UCWG). SRGs now work across whole care communities and are responsible for Planned and Unplanned Care and delivery of associated national targets.

All SRGs have been directed through the new national Operational Resilience & Capacity Planning (ORCP) process to create robust evidence-based capacity plans following an Independent Analytical Review (IAR) to ensure the whole care system can deliver uninterrupted and high standards of care throughout 2014/15. To support this work, additional non recurrent monies have been allocated to SRGs and this equates to £1.135M for BaNES.

BaNES have worked with all providers to agree and fund additional resilience and capacity for 2014/15 and to provide assurance to the national resilience team. All systems have been experiencing high levels of demand so far within 2014 and BaNES is no exception to this trend.

BaNES SRG has agreed to support provider requests which appropriately reduce demand and conveyance to the RUH; increase access and capacity to meet the current and predicted high winter demand for services; and support the flow of patients through the local care system.

BaNES is re-enforcing our strategic and operational management of the local care community through the continued use of our Operational Performance Management Framework (OPMF), successfully introduced during 2013/14. We currently seeking assurance for our planned approach via NHSE and will be making the ORCP arrangements available for the public.

### **Your Health, Your Voice - Further Meeting**

The CCG's patient and public engagement group met on the 4<sup>th</sup> September in Radstock. 'Your health, Your Voice' has just under 50 members with a mix of core members and individuals who want to be kept informed about the work of the CCG. The agenda included an introduction to commissioning, presentations and discussion regarding mental health inpatient beds and the primary care challenge fund. Those who attended found the meeting useful and informative.

### **CCG's 1<sup>st</sup> AGM held**

The CCG held its first Annual General Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> September in the Pump Room in Bath. Tracey Cox, Acting Accountable Officer and Sarah James, Chief Financial Officer presented the Annual Report and Accounts and there were a number of presentations to give a flavour of the work of the CCG during its first year of operation. These included a presentation about the Dementia Workers Service from Ruth Grabham, Medical Director and Laura Marsh, Senior Commissioning Manager; a presentation about Antibiotic Prescribing by Elizabeth Beech, Prescribing Advisor; and a presentation about the new Urgent Care Centre by

Elizabeth Hersch, GP Board Member, Catherine Phillips, Senior Commissioning Manager and Heather Maughan, Bath and North East Somerset Doctors Urgent Care.

**New continence service due to start on 1 October**

The Community Continence Service will be provided from Sirona Care and Health CIC in partnership with the RUH from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014. The service will assess, diagnose and treat people with continence problems and provide ongoing support to people with long term incontinence so that they can lead as fulfilling, and independent lives as possible. It will also provide post-operative support to patients who have had continence surgery, including patients who require support with intermittent self-catheterisation.

**Antibiotic Guardians**

Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats facing us today. Without effective antibiotics many routine treatments will become increasingly dangerous. Setting broken bones, basic operations, even chemotherapy all rely on access to antibiotics that work. To slow resistance we need to cut the use of unnecessary antibiotics. **November 18th** is European Antibiotic Awareness Day. As part of that we're asking everyone in B&NES to become Antibiotic Guardians. Please take 2 minutes to make your pledge by visiting the website: <http://antibioticguardian.com/>.

For further information please contact Elizabeth Beech- Prescribing Advisor NHS Bath and North East Somerset CCG via [BSCCG.information@nhs.net](mailto:BSCCG.information@nhs.net).