

Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

7th October 2011

Key Issues Briefing Note

1 **Any Qualified Provider**

Panel members along with public and other stakeholders participated in the stakeholder event to determine local options and criteria for the extension of choice in community services under the Any Qualified Provider initiative. A full report is provided elsewhere on the agenda.

2 **Sirona Care and Health**

On September 20th following approvals by both NHS B&NES and B&NES Council Janet Rowse, CEO (designate) Sirona Care & Health, John Everitt, CEO of Bath and North East Somerset Council and Jeff James, cluster CEO NHS B&NES and NHS Wiltshire, signed the business transfer agreement which allows the Social Enterprise to be legally established.

The agreement, a five-year contract, was the final stage in an extensive process of consultation, development, governance and due diligence and set out in detail the transfer of community health and social care services to the new organisation.

Sirona Care and Health under its new brand and management structure commenced trading on October 1st 2011.

3 **NHS Reform- Executive Appointments**

NHS B&NES

Appointments to the cluster executive team were reported to the panel at the previous meeting. There were two remaining vacancies at that time. These posts have now been filled completing the executive appointments.

Christina Button has been appointed Director of Commissioning Development. Christina currently holds the position of Director of Performance Improvement at NHS Wiltshire. Prior to this role, Christina gained diverse experience in various roles at Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership and brings valued commercial knowledge to the NHS.

Dr Steve Rowlands and Dr Richard Wharton have jointly been appointed Medical Director for NHS B&NES and NHS Wiltshire Cluster in a job share arrangement. Richard is a GP partner with the Newbridge Practice in Bath and is the Associate Post Graduate Dean at the Severn Deanery in Bristol. Steve has chaired the NHS Wiltshire Commissioning Committee since March this year and is a GP with the Bradford Road practice in Trowbridge. Richard and Steve have worked together successfully on education and managerial projects for many years.

The full cluster executive team for NHS B&NES and NHS Wiltshire is

Role	Post holder
Chief Executive	Jeff James
Director of Finance	Jenny Howells
Director of Nursing	Mary Monnington
Director of HR, Governance and Communications	Suzanne Tewksbury
Director of Commissioning Development	Christina Button
Medical Director	Dr Richard Wharton Dr Steve Rowlands

Strategic Health Authority Clusters

Earlier this year NHS Chief Executive Sir David Nicholson announced that, in line with Primary Care Trusts, Strategic Health Authorities would be kept in place until April 2013 but clustered into larger groups.

At the end of July these groupings were confirmed as:

North (comprising North West, North East and Yorkshire and Humber)

Midlands (West Midlands, East Midlands and East of England)

London

South (South West, South Central and South East Coast)

NHS South of England will:

- Serve a population of 13.4 million
- Oversee an annual budget of £20.7 billion
- Oversee 284,000 NHS staff

The Chair of NHS South was confirmed as Dr Geoff Harris, who previously chaired South Central. Sir Ian Carruthers, OBE, and previously Chief Executive of NHS South West has been appointed as Chief Executive for the South cluster.

The executive team has been put in place and the clusters became operational on 3rd October. They will form the initial footprint for the NHS Commissioning Board's sectors from April 2013.

The next meeting of the NHS South of England Board will be on Thursday, 1 December 2011 at South West House in Taunton.

Healthwatch

B&NES has been approved as a pathfinder for the new Healthwatch following the application made to the Department of Health reported to the panel at its last meeting. Pathfinder status was awarded based on the submission outlining the plans for the transition from Link to Healthwatch in B&NES. Arrangements for the procurement of Healthwatch are on track with pre qualifying questionnaires expected to be distributed

to interested parties in November. At the panels request an update report on Healthwatch will be brought to a future meeting.