

Cllr Vic Pritchard, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing Key Issues Briefing Note

Health & Wellbeing Select Committee July 2016

1. Serena House Refuge Service

A new refuge accommodation service for domestic abuse survivors is being launched in Bath and North East Somerset in June with the help of £100,000 government funding.

Bath & North East Somerset Council secured the funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in December last year after successfully bidding in order to establish refuge services that can work with clients (both women and men with or without children), who have complex or multiple needs.

The new service is called Serena House and it will provide up to eight new units of refuge accommodation in B&NES. The first 2 units have been secured with the help of Curo and were due to open last month (June) and are situated in Keynsham where there are 2 more units in the pipeline. The project group, which includes B&NES Council (Supporting People Team), Curo, DHI and Julian House, is looking to secure further accommodation in Norton Radstock which, along with Keynsham, has been identified as an area with high need and no existing refuge provision.

As well as providing safe and secure accommodation, the service includes the provision of two half time lead professionals employed by partners DHI and Julian House. The lead professionals have expertise in domestic abuse, homelessness, mental health and substance misuse and they will ensure that multiagency working can take place where applicable so that people with complex needs can be supported.

This approach is designed to protect clients while they are dealing with a variety of complex needs and ultimately empower them to live safe, independent lives with a reduced risk of repeat abuse and homelessness. We expect Serena House to 'add value' to existing preventative programmes commissioned by the Council and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), particularly drug and alcohol treatment services as we know that some clients are unable to effectively tackle their substance misuse whilst domestic abuse remains an unaddressed issue.

As a short-term accommodation based service the aim is to ensure that all users move on within 12 months, with the majority leaving within three months. Move on destinations will be varied dependent on the needs and wishes of the clients and will include into the private and social rented sectors both in B&NES and elsewhere. Resettlement support will be provided in order to maximise clients' potential to return to independent living.

2. B&NES/Swindon/Wiltshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan

What is a Sustainability and Transformation Plan?

All areas in England are required to have a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) showing how local health and care services will evolve and become sustainable over the next five years. To deliver plans that are based on the needs of local populations, local health and care systems came together in January 2016 to form 44 STP “footprints”. In most cases, these footprints bring together more than one local authority/Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area. Bath and North East Somerset is in a STP footprint with Swindon and Wiltshire. Health and care organisations in these three areas are working together on an STP for B&NES/Swindon/Wiltshire (BSW) with the aim of improving our local population’s health and wellbeing, to improve service quality and to deliver financial stability.

Work is in its early stages. Five key areas of focus for the BSW STP are emerging. These are:

- To provide improved person-centred care by strengthening and integrating the specialist services that support primary care
- To shift the focus of care from treatment to prevention and proactive care
- To redefine the ways we work together as organisations to deliver improved individual/patient care
- To ensure we offer staff an attractive career and build a flexible, sustainable workforce
- To strengthen collaboration across organisations to directly benefit acute and urgent care services

Why do we need to change the way we deliver services?

There are growing pressures on the health and care system, nationally and locally. The local population is changing. The proportion of older people is rising and there are more people living with complex conditions. This is contributing to an increased demand for services. We need an improved, sustainable and collaborative approach to ensure we continue to provide high quality care within available resources.

Does our STP footprint or area mean our residents will be required to travel to Wiltshire and Swindon for specialist health services rather than Bristol?

No it is not the intention of the STP to require patients, particularly those living in rural areas and in the west of the county like Chew Valley, to travel further in order to be treated on a site within the STP area. The STP is about looking for opportunities to connect and join up local services as well as manage some services across a wider geographical area. It is not about making access to these services inconvenient to patients.

We already have local plans that are right for our local population. How do these fit with the STP?

The health and care needs of the STP population are diverse and we are developing a joint approach that takes this into account. We will also ensure it aligns with individual organisational plans, including, in B&NES the ***your care, your way*** community services review and, also, with local Health and Wellbeing Strategies.

How are the views of patients, carers and the wider public being taken in to account?

Drawing on the experience of those that use health and care services will help us to redesign services and to develop new models of care that are sustainable. We already have considerable insight and information about the health and wellbeing needs of our local population. An example for this is engagement for the ***your care, your way*** community services review. However the development of our plans is one of collaboration and we are committed to ensuring the views of patients are taken into consideration.

Over the coming months STP leaders, in collaboration with Healthwatch, look forward to engaging with the public, patients, carers and the wider health and care workforce to shape and develop the plans further and build a shared vision for high quality, sustainable services. Find out more at www.banesccg/get-involved or email banes.comms@nhs.net with any queries.