

Report for the Children, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel on Tuesday 3 November 2020

1. Health and Wellbeing Board development

Members of the Council's cabinet and senior officers, together with senior executives and clinical leaders of the BSW CCG, met recently to discuss a number of issues including current operational and financial challenges.

Attendees at the meeting discussed an agreement to develop the children and young person's report and safeguarding report to ensure that all stakeholders are aware of matters included in the reports and engaged at an early point.

The group is keen to address issues related to health inequalities and resolved make better use of existing health data about our local populations to do this.

2. Advice and guidance for outpatient development.

BSW CCG's professional leadership network is continuing to manage the challenges around waiting times and referrals in our local hospitals caused by the ongoing restrictions in place because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

There is a particular focus on better management across advice and guidance lines and how they can be used more effectively.

We also have a particular focus on diagnostic, how capacity is being developed and how we can better manage with the current restrictions placed on services.

This extends to managing waiting lists and using an analytics approach to assist with risk stratification.

3. Covid remote monitoring

We are developing a working group for local implementation of a Covid remote monitoring system which would allow clinicians to track the progress and recovery of Covid patients remotely, without having to see them face to face.

This would help with infection control measures, but also significantly allow patients with potentially debilitating symptoms of Covid access to health services sooner and therefore have much better health outcomes.

4. Funding to upgrade specialist dementia mental health units

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership (AWP) NHS Trust has secured almost £3m worth of new funding to upgrade facilities at Hill View Lodge, the mental health inpatient unit based at the Royal United Hospital.

The update to existing facilities will enable AWP to relocate Ward 4, its 12-bedded specialist dementia unit, which is currently located at nearby St Martin's Hospital.

Ward 4 is the Trust's only remaining dormitory-style ward and due to the age of the building and its existing layout is not suitable to be reconfigured to comply with the 'Delivering Single Sex Accommodation' regulatory requirements.

The funding will ensure patients can be cared for in high quality accommodation more suited to the needs of those with dementia.

The funding has been announced as part of the Government's £400 million commitment over the next four years to eradicate dormitory style accommodation from mental health facilities across the country to improve the safety, privacy and dignity of patients with mental health difficulties.

Work to transform part of the Hill View Lodge site and the relocation of Ward 4 is expected to get underway in January 2021, with the relocation of patients planned for June 2021.

5. Radstock Healthy Living Centre

Building work is now underway on a new Healthy Living Centre in Radstock.

The new centre will provide a new home for Radstock's Hope House GP surgery and Children's Centre services as well as offering a range of other services such as minor operations, chronic disease management and family planning.

It will also offer diabetic eye screening, physiotherapy, a diabetes prevention programme and counselling services which local people would otherwise need to travel to Paulton Hospital or the Royal United Hospitals in Bath to access.

We will offer further updates as building work progresses.

6. Reset and recovery of services

We continue to work with our partners to restart health services, building on the lessons learned about the value of joint working across all partners and through a shared commitment to working in an integrated way.

It is important to stress that due to maintaining safe practices aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19, all health services are running with reduced capacity. This helps us to support social distancing, to ensure sufficient time for cleaning clinical areas after each consultation and for donning/doffing PPE.

7. Progress towards an Integrated Care System

Following the merger of merger of Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCGs in April 2020, there is a national NHS drive to create Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) across larger population areas and within this Integrated Care Alliances (ICAs) co-terminus with local authority boundaries.

We are working towards the development of the BSW ICS and locally we are establishing an Integrated Care Alliance for BaNES, building on the relationships and new ways of working developed as a result of COVID 19.

The ICA development has at its heart the shared aim of improving the health, wellbeing and care of the population of BaNES.

8. Citizens panel recruitment event and newsletter

BSW CCG's Our Health Our Future citizen's engagement panel has continued to engage with those living in BSW to get their views on health and care issues.

In line with our value of "inclusive", the online panel is made up of a representative sample of the population from across our region. Panel members take part in regular surveys throughout the year as well as form focus groups.

We have published the results of our surveys, which were carried out in April, May and August, on the CCG website here:

<https://bswccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/how-to-get-involved/bsw-ccg-s-our-health-our-future-panel>

We are also currently recruiting new members through public facing events and sharing the findings of our surveys through a new public facing newsletter .