

Report for Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel – Monday 10 July 2023

Integrated Community Based Care programme update

The Integrated Care System (ICS) has recently published its Integrated Care Strategy which describes the key priorities and ambitions for the ICS. An integral part of this is to increase the focus on prevention and early intervention, delivering this through the BSW Care Model and providing excellent community-based services for people in BSW.

Some of the existing contracts for community services are expiring soon and this offers a unique opportunity for health and care partners to plan and commission services for a future model of care. This future model will enable better integration of local services to meet the needs of our communities, helping to address the challenges facing health and care services including increasing demand, workforce recruitment and retention, and financial sustainability.

The BSW Integrated Care Board (ICB) has established a programme of work called the Integrated Community Based Care Programme (ICBC) to lead the process of securing specific community services from 2025 onwards, working on behalf of the Councils and BSW ICB. The ICBC is governed by a programme board made up of representatives from BSW ICB and the BSW Councils.

The ICBC programme will start with ensuring the immediate continuity of service provision for the people of BSW and the workforce for the financial year 2024/25. This allows sufficient time to ensure people and communities, clinicians, professional staff and providers of services are involved as appropriate in the process.

It is expected that the programme will be completed, with new contracts in place by April 2025. Decisions will be made by the respective Councils and BSW ICB in the coming weeks on their plans for ensuring continuity of service provision for 2024/25. The ICBC programme will work to complement and align with the concurrent programmes of work initiated by Wiltshire Council on commissioning Public Health Nursing Services, and the Bath & North East Somerset Council plans for Adult Social Work and Learning Disability services.

Our plan for engaging with the public on this subject is in development and we will be in a position to offer an update on this over the coming months.

We will continue to keep you informed as the programme progresses. For further information please contact: bswicb.bsw-icbc@nhs.net

Sulis Elective Orthopaedic Centre update

Following our update to the January meeting of the Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel, we would like to offer a further update on plans to provide additional capacity at Sulis Hospital for elective surgery to reduce waiting times across Bath and North East Somerset Swindon and Wiltshire.

The plan is to provide two additional theatres on the Sulis Hospital Bath site along with the conversion of one of the existing theatres to make it suitable for trauma and orthopaedic operations.

The expansion will enable an increase in orthopaedic surgery, predominantly joint replacements. There will be 1500 cases carried out per annum in each theatre plus around 750 cases, a total of 3750 cases.

All suitable orthopaedic cases will be transferred from the RUH and additional capacity will be provided for patients from the BSW area, including Swindon and Salisbury, but also from further afield, for example, from Devon and Cornwall.

More information is included in the attached slide deck

Royal United Hospital Urgent Treatment Centre

BSW ICB and the RUH have been reviewing the Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) model of care delivered from the Royal United Hospital. Following feedback from patients and staff, we plan to amend the service provided in the UTC during the hours of 10pm-8am to respond to the needs of people presenting during this time from September 4th 2023. This will not change access for our local population and aims to provide more rapid assessment and, in particular, advice, guidance and signposting for patients who may be more appropriately treated elsewhere or at different times.

The aim is to support more timely assessment and interventions for patients who do require urgent care support at the RUH. The new streaming pathways do not include children, young people and people with a learning disability and/or autism who will be seen in line with current arrangements.

We will be developing a communication plan over the next few weeks prior to this change to ensure people are aware of how the service will be delivered. We will be monitoring the change to understand any impacts.

Dentistry in BaNES

Responsibility for commissioning dental services was delegated to the BSW ICB from April 2023.

The benefits for local people of BSW ICB taking on responsibility for commissioning these additional services include improved care quality, reduced health inequalities, improved health prevention, improved use of resources and clinical leadership in place to lead and collaboratively work to identify and oversee clinical improvements in services.

As this is a relatively new development and as commissioning arrangements are still bedding in, at this stage BSW ICB would like to schedule an in-depth update on this topic at the September meeting of this group, with a brief overview offered below:

There are currently 116 dental contracts in BaNES

Most recent figures (March 2022) for access to services show 33.7% (nationally 37.4%) of adults and 60.1% (nationally 46.9%) of children in BaNES accessed services. 'Access' is defined as 'attended an appointment with an NHS dentist.'

Industrial action

BSW Integrated Care Board continues to work hard to keep local people safe during planned strikes, while delivering the best care possible.

The next planned period of industrial action will see Junior Doctors strike on Thursday 13 to Tuesday 18 July and Consultants on 20 and 21 July. These latest instances of industrial action are expected to cause significant issues for the day-to-day running of health services in BaNES.

In BSW, system partners are working together to ensure operational oversight and sharing of intelligence.

BSW-wide co-ordination has been established both through a Strategic Co-ordination Group and Tactical Co-ordination Group.

No-one should put off seeking urgent or emergency care during the strikes and people with serious, life-threatening conditions will continue to be seen at our Emergency Departments.

On days when there is strike action, people should only call 999 if it is a medical or mental health emergency. Ambulances will still respond in these situations, but this may only be where there is an immediate risk to life.

Homeward unit launches at St Martins Hospital

Patients who are almost ready to go home from hospital, but who require a period of recuperation to help them better prepare, are being offered a stay in a Homeward Unit at St Martin's Hospital in Bath.

The 16-bed facility will allow patients to get better through a range of therapeutic interventions including help with mobilisation, support with healthy eating, getting enough to drink and increased interaction with other people on the ward.

The unit, operated by local provider HCRG Care Group for Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board (BSW ICB), will also help to avoid the deconditioning and hospital-based infections that can sometimes affect patients that spend too long in acute hospital beds.

The team on the Homeward Unit will work with patients and their families or carers to ensure they are in the best possible position to leave the hospital and begin their journey to the place they call home.

Patients recently discharged from the Homeward Unit have praised the support they have received, the standards of food and the welcoming and friendly staff.

Virtual Wards in BaNES

Following our recent update to the November meeting of the Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel, the NHS@Home Virtual Wards service is now available to people living in Bath and North East Somerset. In June 50 patients have been supported by the new service.

NHS@Home Virtual Wards is a joint initiative provided across Bath and North East Somerset, by HCRG Care Group, the Royal United Hospital and other local health and care organisations. The service is also offered across Swindon and Wiltshire.

The service supports suitable patients, who would otherwise be in hospital, to receive a high level of care, assessment, monitoring and treatment at home or their normal place of residence.

NHS@Home Virtual Wards, which is also sometimes known as Hospital at Home, provides a range of interventions from a team of doctors, nurses paramedics and

therapists and other healthcare professionals who assess patients both remotely and face-to-face as required to provide clinical advice and treatment.

Members of the NHS@Home Virtual Wards team will schedule regular visits, dependent on individual needs, to deliver the treatment and care required. Patients will also have access to advice and support outside of their visits.

The B&NES Integrated Community Nurse conference

The B&NES Integrated Community Nurse conference ran for a second year on June 14th, 2023 at the Newton Park Campus of Bath Spa University.

The event, was once again coordinated by key community providers; B&NES Enhanced Medical Service, HCRG Care Group, Dorothy House and B&NES Nursing Home representatives. For a second year running, the event was highly successful and well-received by all 50 delegate nurses from across the specialities.

The conference focused on two main themes: integration and celebration, with the overriding aim being to bring together nurses, celebrate nursing achievements and continue the positive work from last year regarding strengthening the integrated working between providers.

The event was fortunate to be supported by key speakers like the South West Regional Chief Nurse, Sue Doheny, and Queen's Nurse representatives. Their presentations offered valuable knowledge, innovative ideas and helped foster meaningful discussions and networking opportunities. A representative from the University of the West of England placements team attended to observe, which will help to forge new placements links for the future workforce.

Both years, the event has been a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the community nurses in BANES, as well as facilitate knowledge sharing and foster collaborative and integrated approaches to patient care in our locality.