

Health and Well Being Board Update

You may be aware that the six CCGs in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have been working in closer alignment since the area became one of the first-wave of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) nationally in 2017.

We are now in the process of forming a joint leadership team for the CCGs, and will be beginning a wider internal reorganisation during the summer of this year. (see appendix for more info)

The next stage in this evolution is the proposed formal merger of all six existing CCGs into one single organisation. Our proposal is to form a single CCG as the strategic commissioning organisation within the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS. This is the recommended model in the recently published NHS Long Term Plan which outlines the approach to every area becoming an ICS with a single CCG. It will complement wider changes to NHS services suggested in the Plan as well as local transformation with the roll out of Primary Care Networks.

At the same time as establishing stronger local services, we also need a strategic view of the impacts of commissioning to help us tackle the wider causes of poor health.

Reducing the number of CCGs will also unlock significant savings in the administration and management costs for the NHS. This will help to protect services to patients and enable us to maximise the amount of taxpayer investment in the NHS reaching front-line patient care.

We plan to consult with all local GPs as well as wider stakeholders about formal proposals to merge the CCGs and as such we are writing to you to give you the opportunity to feed in your thoughts on this proposed merger. On www.nottinghamnortheastccg.nhs.uk/nhs/ccgs-merger you will find a timeline that highlights key moments in this process over the coming weeks. A copy of the full consultation is also available to download.

We are confident that a single strategic commissioner formed from a merger of the current six CCGs will be the right approach for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire – but it is also important to note that some elements of the existing arrangements will continue into the new approach. These include:

- The new CCG will remain a clinically-led organisation and clinicians (including GPs, nurses and Allied Health Professionals) will continue to participate in decision-making and transformational change
- Local people, clinicians and stakeholders will continue to be involved and engaged in commissioning decisions
- There will be clear mechanisms in place to ensure that commissioning managers operating at a more strategic level do not lose local knowledge or sight of locality and population-based needs
- Relationships with healthcare providers, including the voluntary sector, will be maintained and continually strengthened

- We will prioritise and ring-fence certain resources in accordance with specific locality and population need, in particular, deprived communities
- Focus will continue on maintaining existing good, or improving provider performance, as well as addressing more challenging provider performance elsewhere in the county
- Nursing and Allied Health Professions will play an essential role in the leadership and coordination of care services, and their voice will be reflected both within integration plans and across the system architecture as it develops.

The Health and Well Being Board plays a vital role with the CCGs in supporting people in their local communities to live longer, happier, healthier and more independently in their old age.

As a key stakeholder for the CCGs and we would welcome your comments on this proposed merger via our online survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProposedCCGMerger> by Monday June 17th.