

Briefing note

To: Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5)

Date: 4th December 2013

Subject: Update on Primary Care in Coventry

1 Purpose of the Note

To update the Committee on developments in Primary Medical Care in Coventry and discuss any arising issues.

2 Updates

2.1 Primary Care Quality

The Area Team are implementing the nationally developed framework for quality assurance of providers of Primary Medical Services.

The framework uses a number of indicators as a proxy measure of quality. Practices that are considered outliers on the framework are included in the Performance Management Framework developed. The locally implemented framework takes into account other elements of information including complaints and patient feedback, national GP access survey results, breaches of cold chain etc.

Out of the sixty-five General practices in Coventry, twenty-eight are currently on the framework and subject to management under the framework by the Area Team.

2.2 Practice Reconfiguration

There are a number of other discussions ongoing regarding potential closer working of GP practices including federated models and future mergers. These range from full contractual mergers to sharing back-office functions to working closely on services commissioned by third parties.

There are a number of contracts originally commissioned under the Equitable Access to Primary care (EAPC) that are due for a review shortly. The Area Team is undertaking a review and will be in a position to communicate the outcomes shortly.

The Area Team will follow the Regulatory Framework for consideration of any proposals and will notify any relevant parties as appropriate.

2.3 Premises

There are a number of proposed GP premises developments in Coventry. Three of these premises developments are categorised as Category one (1) state. These are Canley, Tile Hill and an extension to existing premises at Green Lane (Sky Blue medical Centre). This means that these developments, which had formal PCT Board approval prior to 1st April 2013 will be given priority for funding once available.

There are also a number of current premises which will require capital expenditure to be compliant with Care Quality Commission (CQC) and contractual regulations. Discussions will be had with the contractors concerned in order to address these issues. It is generally the contractors' responsibility to ensure their premises are compliant.

The new premises development in Clay Lane became operational in the summer (2013) and now houses three single handed practices from the nearby area as well as a pharmacy.

CQC have commenced their programme of visits in the area against Essential standards and the reports from these inspections are publically available. The Area Team discusses these reports monthly at Quality and Performance visits and any issues identified are followed up.

3 Recommendations

The Board is asked to note the contents of the briefing.

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