



NHS Manchester update: September 2008

This is the monthly update paper produced by NHS Manchester (previously known as Manchester Primary Care Trust) for the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. NHS Manchester is responsible for ensuring funding for health services is targeted where it is needed the most, that NHS care is of the highest standards and ultimately that local people lead longer, healthier lives. The update covers a range of topics that may be of interest to the Committee.

1 Commissioning Strategic Plan

NHS Manchester is currently preparing its new commissioning strategic plan. This will set out its objectives for the next five years, including a clear vision and ten priority areas. Developing and implementing the plan is part of NHS Manchester's role in the new World Class Commissioning framework, a national approach to improving the quality of NHS services and achieving an overall improvement in the health of all communities.

It is proposed that NHS Manchester's vision for the next five years will be "improving health in Manchester". This should be reflected in the way NHS funds are invested in the city, with an expectation that the ethos of improving health will be clearly demonstrated in the delivery of all NHS services.

The organisation has identified ten priorities that are the key areas where it believes a stronger emphasis will achieve the greatest transformation in local people's health. The ten priorities are to:

- Help people to live longer
- Reduce the gap in life expectancy between people in different parts of Manchester
- Reduce the number of people admitted to hospital because of problems related to alcohol
- Reduce the number of children who are overweight
- Reduce the number of pregnancies among teenagers
- Make sure that health services are safe
- Improve the quality and access to primary care services and in particular make it easier to get an appointment with a GP
- Make sure that every person with a long term health problem has an individual care plan to meet their needs
- Reduce waiting times for planned appointments
- Reduce waiting times for urgent advice and treatment

The views of stakeholders on the contents of the draft plan are currently being sought with a view to a final draft being submitted to NHS North West in October. The full plan will be brought to the Committee's October meeting for discussion.

2 New £1.5m investment to improve access to NHS dentists

The Board of NHS Manchester has agreed a new programme of investment that will offer thousands more dental appointments to local people. Additional funding of £1.5m in 2008-09 will be used to offer more routine NHS dentistry services, along with extra investment in home visits and sedation services. There will be new contracts for NHS dental services in the three wards that currently do not have an NHS practice, namely Baguley, Charlestown and Didsbury West, along with additional investment in a number of other parts of the city. The additional funding is recurrent and the process of procuring the new services is now underway.

3 Public responds on new GP services

Around 1,400 responses have been received to surveys undertaken in Levenshulme, Longsight, Moston and the city centre, about plans to open four new GP services next Spring. The Committee has previously heard about plans for a GP-led health centre in the city centre, which will open 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, and new practices in the three identified wards which will benefit from Saturday opening and appointments late into the evening on some weekdays.

A number of issues were raised in response to the survey, including the need for the services to have effective appointments systems and be accessible by public transport. The feedback will be used to inform the development of the new services, for which suitable service providers are now being sought. All four services are due to open in April 2009.

4 Groundbreaking families' scheme to expand

An innovative service that supports young, first time mothers will nearly double in size with new funding from NHS Manchester. Manchester is already a pilot site for the Family Nurse Partnership programme, which supports mothers aged under 21 from early pregnancy until their children reach the age of 2. Specially trained nurses visit each mother regularly to offer advice on parenting, maternal health and child health.

Manchester is one of ten areas piloting the scheme in conjunction with the Department of Health. Early indications suggest that it is realising the same benefits seen in parts of the United States of America where a similar approach is well established. These include better prenatal and mental health, a reduction in childhood injuries and fewer subsequent pregnancies. It has had positive feedback in Manchester where there are currently 128 clients. NHS Manchester will now fund the scheme until 2012, as a result of which the Department of Health will fund a second pilot for a further 100 mothers.

5 Talking Health

A survey has been distributed to households throughout Manchester as part of the Talking Health initiative. The survey asks a range of questions about people's experiences of local health services and how they hope NHS care in the city will develop in the future. NHS Manchester has begun analysing responses to the survey, which can also be completed online and by telephone, to help understand

perceptions of current NHS services and inform commissioning decisions. The Committee will receive a full report in October.

.6 Fluoridation of water supplies

The North West Fluoridation Evaluation Group (NWFEG), which was commissioned by primary care trusts (PCTs) across the North West to evaluate the possibility of water fluoridation being introduced in the region, published its initial finds in July. The report identifies four examples of possible fluoridation schemes and summarises evidence that fluoridation could help to reduce tooth decay among children and adults.

NHS North West, the strategic health authority, has subsequently produced a formal decision making framework for water fluoridation. It sets out the roles and responsibilities that they and the region's PCTs will have in any proposals to fluoridate water supplies. The first step is for PCTs to separately inform NHS North West by 31 October 2008 whether they would support further exploratory work to identify a feasible fluoridation scheme. If and when proposals for a feasible scheme are produced, PCTs will then be invited to consider whether they wish NHS North West to proceed with a public consultation about such a scheme.

You can read the report of the North West Fluoridation Evaluation Group online here: <http://www.alwpct.nhs.uk/Health%20Developments/Fluoridation/Fluoridation%20Evaluation.asp>

You can read NHS North West's framework for the decision making process online here: http://www.northwest.nhs.uk/document_uploads/Board%20Papers/08.Frameworkforhedecisionmakingprocessrefluoridation.pdf

7 Name change to NHS Manchester

The new name NHS Manchester is being introduced in place of Manchester Primary Care Trust. This follows recent national guidance from the Department of Health and helps to simply convey the organisation's leadership role and responsibilities for the whole NHS system across the city. The name will be used on new materials produced by the PCT from September onwards. Please note that this a change to the public-facing name of the organisation but does not apply for contractual, financial or other legal purposes.

Updates and further information on many of the issues covered here will be brought to future meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, if you would like further information about any of these items now, please contact:

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APPENDIX

Forward Plan

The Forward Plan is an overview of forthcoming milestones for Manchester PCT.

Timescale	Issue	Summary
October 2008	PCT completes Commissioning Strategic Plan	PCT required to submit new Commissioning Strategic Plan to NHS North West.
Late December 2008	Award of contracts for three new GP practices	Three new primary medical services contracts to be awarded following tendering process. Part of a national programme to address 'under-doctored' areas. Practices to be located in three wards: Levenshulme, Longsight and Moston.
Late December 2008	Award of contract for new GP-led health centre	Contract awarded to operate a new GP-led health centre as part of a national programme to establish one such centre in each PCT area. To be located in the city centre.
April 2009	Standards for Better Health declaration	PCT submits its self-declaration of performance against the Standards for Better Health.
April 2009	Opening of three new GP practices	New services become operational in Levenshulme, Longsight and Moston
April 2009	Opening of new GP-led health centre	New service becomes operational in city centre.
Spring 2009	New GP Out-of-Hours arrangements commence	The PCT is undertaking a tendering process for the provision of out-of-hours GP services. The new contract is due to be implemented from Spring 2009.
Spring 2009	New Dental Out-of-Hours arrangements commence	The PCT is undertaking a tendering process for the provision of out-of-hours dental services. The new contract is due to be implemented from Spring 2009.
June-July 2009	Closure of Booth Hall Children's Hospital and relocation of services to new facilities	Services at Booth Hall Children's Hospital will relocate, with the most specialist services transferring to the new children's hospital in central Manchester and other services including outpatients and Accident and Emergency transferring to North Manchester General Hospital.