

Warwickshire Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board

22 May 2012

Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group – Progress towards Authorisation

Recommendations

That the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. Supports the principle of closer working between Rugby and Coventry CCGs in order to pool knowledge and good practice, clinical capacity and leadership, achieve economies of scale, and commission effectively in line with patient flows.
2. Endorses the progress made by Rugby CCG in working towards a single Coventry and Rugby CCG structure which will greatly strengthen our commissioning role with our main provider UHCW (University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire) and thereby help to strengthen, develop and protect services for our residents at St Cross Hospital, Rugby and in the community.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Rationale for a single CCG: Rugby CCG was amber rated for authorisation by the Strategic Health Authority (SHA) in November 2011. The CCG was rated green for all criteria except size, the population of under 100,000 posing potential risks on clinical risk management grounds and on management capacity and resources. The Rugby CCG Executive team have at all stages been committed to a strong local identity and locally based commissioning team for Rugby but recognise that our main provider UHCW, and mental health provider, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (CWPT) are countywide organisations. Rugby GPs supported the view that the CCG's commissioning role would be considerably strengthened by working more closely with the two former Coventry CCGs, and that this would be of clear benefit to Rugby patients and our population, and voted in support of working towards a single CCG governing body, with three underlying locality structures in March 2012.
- 1.2 The options appraisal with proposals for joint working which went to Rugby and Coventry GPs was also sent out to Health and Wellbeing Board senior colleagues in February 2012 and no comments were received at that time. This options appraisal document was sent to all HWB members last month. Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council are both represented on Rugby CCG's Partnership Board

which meets monthly, at which all the background to the above has been discussed regularly since November 2011 and no concerns have been expressed to date. We are now seeking the endorsement of Warwickshire HWB in working towards authorisation as a single CCG governing body across Rugby and Coventry in Autumn 2012, which will become fully operational in April 2013.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Rugby CCG will continue to have a strong locality team, including Chief Operating Officer and GP clinical leads, based in a Rugby locality office.
- 2.2 Rugby CCG will continue to work closely with our CCG colleagues in North and South Warwickshire, and as part of the countywide federation of CCGs, and will maintain a Warwickshire perspective in commissioning services for our Rugby population.
- 2.3 Rugby CCG will continue to be represented on Warwickshire's Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and remains committed to the key priorities identified in the Warwickshire JSNA and implementation of these through our local health strategy and to tackling health inequalities in our population.
- 2.4 Rugby CCG will continue its strong working relationships with public health colleagues, Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council on behalf of Rugby residents, and there will be no changes to the commissioning of social care for Rugby.
- 2.5 Rugby CCG will work with South Warwickshire Foundation Trust (SWFT) and both UHCW and CWPT to ensure seamless community services working across acute and community settings for the benefit of our residents and aiming to reduce unnecessary admissions and ensure timely and effective discharge arrangements from hospital.
- 2.6 Rugby CCG will continue to offer patients choice in terms of care in hospital settings, but we recognise that in Rugby making best use of the St Cross site in providing local services is a priority for our local population.
- 2.7 Rugby CCG will continue to work with Warwickshire Health and Scrutiny to oversee the above.
- 2.8 We are aware that concern has been expressed regarding future working in Warwickshire with a new combined CCG and hope that the above provides some reassurance. We believe the benefits of maximum leverage in commissioning from a large acute provider, and developing a structure which reflects patient flows into acute care, outweigh the potential disadvantages of working with two local authorities, and are of particular benefit to Rugby residents in considering future services at St Cross. Our current partnerships and working relationships in Warwickshire

are good and will be maintained and strengthened under the new combined CCG structure.

3.0 Timescales associated with the decision/Next steps

- 3.1 On May 2nd 2012 the Rugby and Coventry CCG teams met together and agreed to a timetable of joint working with a view to authorisation as a single CCG governing body in Autumn 2012.
- 3.2 Coventry and Rugby CCGs' Executive teams will be meeting as joint Board-to-Board and management team meetings from 1st June and the Rugby team will ensure effective representation in all decision-making processes.
- 3.3 Recruitment is underway for the key roles of Chair and Accountable Officer, both of which will be local GPs, for a new combined CCG.
- 3.4 Further feedback on this process will be available at the next HWB in June.

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