

Friday, 20 January 2017

Hello my name is Rob, and welcome to the STP update for this week.

What's been happening this week?

Other than Brexit the news this week has been dominated by the pressures on the health and social care system and the impact this is having on patients and colleagues working across the sector. Most of this has centred on a phoney war with GPs. This sort of national noise can get in the way of our work. We can't let it. We can hope though that local authority leaders are successful in their calls upon the government to address the crisis in social care, noting the reduction on budgets over the past five years and the consequences of this, namely in care home support, reduction in mental health provision and safe hospital discharge.

As Addenbrooks comes out of [special measures](#), you may have heard [Sir Mike Richards](#), Chief Inspector for Hospitals, Care Quality Commission give a number of interviews about the factors that affected this. Having said there is a tipping point in social care, the CQC are now advocating for strong system leadership. This is helpful and Mike was clear in his Radio 4 interview that the pressure on hospitals is caused by record levels of attendances, emergency admissions and activity in a clogged up system. The part of the interview which resonated with me the most was the need for strong, effective leadership over the whole of the health and social care system and the need to encourage this across all levels. I think he means us!

I spoke at a **workforce planning event** in Leeds on Wednesday about the changing landscapes of the NHS workforce and the role of STPs. Mike Curtis from Health Education England, Wyn Jones from Leeds Teaching Hospitals and Jonathan Booker, the analyst from the programme management office were also guest speakers. Over 40 clinical fellows and graduate trainees attended the event, which helped sharpen the focus on workforce. Thanks to Ros Tolcher and Mike Curtis for their leadership in this area. The day to day pressures on our workforce and the future needs of health and social care are significant. Organisations face fundamental policy barriers to working together. How we move on from this was a strong theme of the event. As was, how we plan and secure a transformed workforce for primary and community care. I briefly touched on the role of registered workforce initiatives, organisational development and how in an ideal world all our workforce would in some way, shape or form, contribute to the prevention agenda as a priority– so that every contact well and truly counts.

“We can design innovative new care models, but they simply won't become a reality unless we have a workforce with the right numbers, skills, values and behaviours to deliver it” ([Five Year Forward View](#)).

I also attended an event this week for the launch of [AHPs into Action](#) This is an excellent piece of work, evidence based, crowd sourced and themed into practical changes that can be delivered today. Included in the showcase was the work of extended scope radiographers in Mid Yorkshire as well as excellent work on falls. The work should be required reading in every Trust and every part of the system.

STP local plan leads met this week to update on their work programmes. All confirmed that work has been aligned to the draft STP plan and are waiting feedback from NHS England.

There was a good discussion around how they can ensure best practice is shared, whilst avoiding duplication of effort with the limited amount of resources available.

The Mental Health CEOs met this week, with a good programme update. There is scope for genuine progress on a range of areas. The commitment to creating a group dynamic and shared commissioning was reinforced too. The latter will be part of a new set of commissioning arrangements that arise from the collective work we are doing across the STP. A paper has been prepared for agreement at the next leadership day on making rapid progress. This is an exciting development that will help bring progress to our work.

Last but not least, **thank you** to everyone who has worked hard on submitting bids to the transformation funds for the deadline on Wednesday, i.e. mental health, cancer and diabetes. There has been a total request of over £20million. NHS E will make the decision and notify us by the end of March.

What's happening next week?

- The Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee meet on Monday. This is a good chance to discuss our cancer and stroke programmes. The papers for this meeting are [here](#)
- The second meeting of the regional lay member reference group is meeting on Tuesday. We will be asking the group's views on how we can open up the membership to include other public involvement reps from hospitals and local authorities etc.
- I will be giving an interview to the Health Commissioner Review publication on Tuesday with a focus on the challenges, hurdles and aspirations for the STP.
- Meeting of West Yorkshire Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Board will take place on Wednesday. Commissioning leaders will be attending to discuss the emerging model for strategic commissioning for WY&H.

What's coming up?

- The Kings Funds are holding an event in March aimed at health and social care professionals involved in the strategy, planning and implementation of new care models, as well as the development of the primary and acute care systems (PACS) and multispecialty community provider (MCP) models as part of the STP implementation. You may be interested in attending.