

Friday 23 June 2017

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

The election brings some clarity following a period of potential political uncertainty about the direction of travel for the NHS. This was exemplified by the presentations at the NHS Confederation Conference on 14th and 15th June. The Conference was the first opportunity for the national leadership of the NHS to engage with senior leaders from across the country.

The Secretary of State, CEO of NHS England, CEO of Health Education England and CEO of NHS Improvement set out a number of consistent themes and priorities for the next year. There was a striking shift in one of the dominant narratives to be around the **workforce**. You can access all of the speeches and content [here](#) . In summary we are being asked to **carry on delivering the vision set out in the [Next Steps on the Five Year Forward View](#)** with a focus on:

- Urgent and emergency care
- Mental health
- Cancer
- Maternity
- Primary care and general practice
- Financial discipline
- Delivering Accountable Care Systems (ACS) through Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs)

This is a helpful degree of continuity in a difficult and uncertain environment where issues such as Brexit, the Grenfell tower fire and the terrorist attacks in London and Manchester have dominated. The emergency services have rightly gathered plaudits for the work that they have done and their response to tragic events. I am sure many of you watched this week's episode of "[Hospital](#)", the BBC 2 documentary now in its second series. Filmed on 22 March, at St Mary's Hospital in Paddington - in the immediate aftermath of the Westminster Bridge terror attack, a major incident is declared at St Mary's - the nearest of London's four major trauma centres. Within minutes, staff at the hospital implement the Trust's major incident protocol, putting the hospital on lockdown and organising the transfer of some critically ill patients from the hospital's already full intensive care unit to a nearby hospital. Specialist trauma teams are assembled in A&E, ready to receive the casualties as they start to arrive. In an extraordinary hour of television, the staff shown in the programme epitomise the dedication, professionalism and courage shown across the NHS every day. You can read a blog post by [Dr Alison Sanders](#), the Trust's clinical director of urgent care and emergency medicine [here](#) where she talks about working in the midst of a major incident.

The NHS as a concept and an ideal has gained even greater support from politicians and public commentators as a result of events like these.

The Secretary of State suggested that an **early deal on allowing EU residents working in the NHS right to stay** was a priority. This is essential, given that new EU registrations have almost completely collapsed. He also said that there would be **no legislative change in the NHS until after Brexit**. Even then this would require cross party support potentially opening the door for cross party work on the future of the NHS.

All of this makes our focus on relationships, joined up care and place within our STP highly relevant. The continuing focus on STPs ensures a genuine focus on both national and local priorities.

It also means that a local focus on harnessing the power of communities and coproduction will be essential. This part of the equation is in danger of becoming lost in a focus on finance and performance. In the last month, I have spoken at the Kings Fund on these topics, highlighting the great work of the Trust and the ambitions of the [STP](#). It was a privilege to see our [Creative Minds](#) and the [Wakefield Vanguard](#) recognised in the meetings and to see the team present to Prince Charles about their work. You can see the presentation by Debs Taylor, Expert by Experience and Peer Project Support Officer and Jill Poole, Health and Wellbeing Service Manager [here](#).

What's been happening this week?

The **Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) Network** met on Monday. A detailed discussion took place on the Urgent and Emergency Care Milestone Tracker which we submitted to NHS England today. This has been accompanied by a letter setting out that the STP is a collaborative vehicle that promotes mutual accountability. We are not a performance management organisation. This is an ideal that we must continue to pursue and Matt Ward is working on a paper to support such an approach for the future. The submission on UEC has been shared with the WY&H STP wider Leadership Team.

The **STP System Leadership Executive Group** met on Tuesday to discuss the Urgent and Emergency Care Delivery Plan and the development of a WY&H finance strategy. The Finance Strategy is a really important piece of work, building upon the work that has already taken place by our Finance Directors across WY&H, providing a coherent summary of the actions we will be required to undertake to deliver financial sustainability as one of the three key aims set out in the Five Year Forward View. This work was also discussed at the monthly meeting of WY&H STP Directors of Finance this afternoon. The continuing ownership of the agenda and numbers will help ensure the success of the STP.

I had a very constructive meeting on Thursday about how we can best work together to develop a better understanding of our **estates and capital requirements** to meet the requirement of changing clinical service models. [Owen Williams](#), Chief Executive at Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS FT has agreed to lead this piece of work, working alongside Jude Wildgoose from [Community Health Partnerships](#) and Jonathan Webb, STP Director of

Finance. We agreed that we would consider the next steps at the System Leadership Executive Group meeting on 18 July 2017.

Ian Holmes and I also met with colleagues from the [British Heart Foundation](#) on Thursday about the work they are doing on **Atrial Fibrillation (AF) and Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)**. As an STP we are very keen to continue a dialogue with the BHF to understand how we can best work together in WY&H on these important areas. An ambition of an STP programme delivered in partnership with the BHF, with firm evaluation and evidence of effectiveness is worth striving for.

On Thursday, **Dr Andy Withers** (Chair of the WY&H STP Clinical Forum) and other clinicians from across WY&H STP attended an event organised by the [Yorkshire and the Humber Clinical Senate](#) (which provides an independent source of strategic clinical advice for Yorkshire and the Humber). The workshop, aimed at clinicians and those supporting them within each STP footprint focused on sharing experience, ideas and learning new skills to deliver the ambition of service change and improvement articulated in Sustainability and Transformation Plans.

I attended a **Mental Health and Learning Disability** Event in Leeds today organised by NHS Improvement. Many Mental Health Trust Chairs and Chief Executives in the North were there and I did a presentation about the STP in WY&H. The purpose of the event was to support the continuing improvement of mental health and learning disability services across the North by bringing together many of the key individuals and teams responsible for the management, delivery and improvement of these services. Many of the discussions focussed on: how NHS Improvement can improve access to resources and build relationships with key stakeholders, exploring how NHS Improvement can further support Trusts following the mental health audit in urgent and emergency care and ensuring effective, ongoing improvement and assurance mechanisms for mental health are in place across the North and on a par with that of physical health. To support greater collaborative work between NHS England and NHS Improvement on the mental health agenda, [Professor Tim Kendall](#) was appointed earlier this year to the role of National Clinical Director for Mental Health for NHS Improvement. This is in addition to [his role in NHS England](#).

What's happening next week?

- There is a meeting of the **West Yorkshire and Harrogate STP Public Health Co-ordination Group** on Monday, chaired by Dr Ian Cameron.
- Simon Stevens and other National Directors from **NHS England are visiting Bradford Teaching Hospital NHS Trust** next week. A number of leaders across the WY&H STP will be joining the NHS England team for a session to talk about the work of the STP.
- The **Health + Care event is taking place in London on 28th and 29th June 2017**. [Jo Webster](#), Chief Officer at Wakefield CCG and [Helen Hirst](#), Chief Officer for the Bradford District and Craven CCGs are both speaking at the event in two sessions. The first is highlighting how CCGs in WY&H are responding to local need and adopting a

more strategic role in the planning of whole-system, population-based healthcare. The second is looking at the benefits, challenges and solutions to creating accountable care organisations.

FOR INFORMATION

- [Bercow: Ten Years On](#) is a **national review of support for children and young people with communication difficulties**. It comes ten years after John Bercow led a similar, Government commissioned, review. As part of the review, the team want to hear from a range of different audiences about their experience of support for children with speech, language and communication needs. There are a number of different surveys open and I would encourage you to share your views. You can access the surveys [here](#).
- There is an event organised by NHS England on the **13th July 2017 in Leeds on Population Health Analytics** which you can register for [here](#).
- A new [community mental health and wellbeing network has been set up for organisations working in South Leeds](#) which network brings together businesses, charities and services to share resources and skills for the benefit of South Leeds community.
- There is a conference taking place in Leeds on Monday, focusing on [Mental Health in schools](#). The event will link national government policy with examples of innovative provision within schools and the latest thinking from national organisations including the Teacher Development Trust and the Children's and Young People's Mental Health Coalition.
- The [NHS Innovation Accelerator](#) (NIA) - is now recruiting up to 12 Fellows representing high-impact, evidence-based innovations, sourced nationally and internationally, which address one or more of the following challenges:
 - [Mental health](#): To ensure that people at risk of or experiencing mental health problems can rapidly access effective and convenient care and support
 - [Urgent and emergency care](#): To provide highly responsive, effective and personalised solutions for people with or at risk of developing urgent and emergency care needs
 - [Primary care](#): To support and strengthen primary care in its aim to ensure high levels of quality, satisfaction and timely access to diagnosis and treatment as close to home as possible.

The NIA aims to accelerate uptake and spread of high-impact innovations across England's NHS. These Fellows will be exceptional individuals with a passion and commitment for scaling innovation for greater patient benefit, and for sharing their learnings widely. The call is open until 26th July 2017, to local, national and international health and industry innovators, SMEs, clinicians and academics.