



Friday 21 April 2017

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

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This week has seen **the unexpected calling of a General Election to be held in June**. This will have two major impacts: to **increase the political debate** about issues such as Brexit and the NHS and social care; and to **stall a number of political developments during the *Purdah* period**.

We could ultimately see some changes to the NHS and care landscape as a result of the election. This period is the one where our representative bodies have the best chance of influencing manifestos. During the next seven weeks, we will require effective lobbying from our representative bodies including the [NHS Confederation](#), [NHS Providers](#) and [Local Government Association](#). I would expect a strong coalition should emerge that will represent our views and call for things that would make things better.

**I will not provide my list of asks, however much I want to as we are in *Purdah* for local elections and the General Election.** Restrictions are placed on the activity of civil servants until the 9 June. During this time, decisions on national policy will be postponed unless it is in the national interest to proceed. Put simply we will keep delivering services, getting on with usual business of planning and improvement and it will be business as usual. However, we do need to keep in mind that we should do everything possible to avoid any PR or communication activity that could call our political impartiality into question and to ensure that public resources are not used for party-political purposes. We will share any further information when we have it and in the meantime there is a link [here](#) which may help.

**There is continued concern about Brexit and the consequences for NHS staffing, research and funding as Article 50 is triggered** and negotiations (were) about to begin. One of the principal issues for early resolution is the right of EU health workers to remain in the UK. This comes at a time when the **Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is threatening industrial action** over pay, following the Pay Review Body recommendation of a 1% pay rise for NHS staff. The RCN has previously not engaged in industrial action and this shows the unhappiness in parts of the system following changes to bursaries, Brexit and persistent below inflation pay rises. We will need to ensure we do all we can in the workforce work stream to support the delivery of cultural and practical changes that support a sustainable workforce.

### What's been happening this week?

**We received an invitation last Thursday from NHS England/NHS Improvement to submit STP proposals to access capital resources** (the £325m which was highlighted in the 'Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View'). Jonathan Webb (STP finance director), Ian Currell, Ian Holmes, and colleagues across the six local places of our STP have identified schemes for the initial bidding process to the value of £40million. Summary proposals were submitted for **urgent and emergency care, cancer and digital** to meet today's deadline with fully completed templates required by Friday 2 May 2017. I'm grateful for the work to turn this around to such a rapid deadline. I have asked for early feedback from NHSE/NHSI next week in return.

**There is an understanding that further capital pots will be available for IT and general developments.** I have made suggestions in the covering submission about the other developments we need to fund in support of the STP when we get to the next phase of capital resourcing.

**I was delighted to hear that our STP has secured diabetes transformation money of £2.7m** to improve care for people across the area at risk or currently living with this long-term health condition. We have been awarded funds in each of the six local places which make up our STP.

**The second meeting of the System Leadership Executive Group took place on Tuesday.** The membership of the group is reflective of the various sectors and the six places that make up our WY&H STP. There was a good discussion around our draft **strategy for engagement and consultation**. Being proactive, honest and open is central to our engagement and consultation strategy. We are keen to pin down activity which will take place across the area in the next 12mths so we can make this publically available.

**Healthwatch have been an effective partner in developing our communication and engagement strategy.** I have asked them to take a role as the conscience of the STP on this issue, holding a mirror up on the *delivery* of the strategy. This demonstrates the commitment and partnership we want to see from services at a local level through to the Executive Group.

**We also discussed resourcing our STP developments.** Working at a WY&H level should reduce duplication and drive efficiency – rather than increase cost. We are seeing good progress, with staff aligned to programmes from CCGs, providers and NHS England. Ian’s resources are now looking healthier and we can service the programmes more effectively. Over the coming months, there will be more alignment of staff on finance, engagement, governance and project support for the work streams.

There was a meeting on **digital healthcare** on Wednesday with Ian, Jason Broch, Alastair Cartwright and Kate Henry from South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Trust. Digital Healthcare is a strength in pockets of the patch. It should be a true system changer for us and a key part of our STP. Current examples of development include:

- NHS England has launched a pilot to test a **web-based version of its non-emergency phone line NHS 111**. West Yorkshire and Harrogate is one of four test areas. The website allows users to input their symptoms via a step-by-step-guide, and can be accessed on computer, phone or tablet.
- **Residents at a Leeds care home are also benefitting from a digital pilot scheme**, funded by NHS England as part of the [West Yorkshire and Harrogate Acceleration Zone](#), health and care staff can remotely monitor their health. Patient safety and quality are naturally top priorities. Offering patients’ choice is also important and we believe digital technology can help us do that – the possibilities are endless.
- Between 22 and 29 April, the **Leeds Digital Festival** is taking place at various venues across Leeds. The 2016 festival was very popular with over 8000 people attending events. This year there are over 100 events, some of which are presented by local health and social care organisations, as well as NHS Digital. More information can be found [here](#)

The challenge for us is to accelerate this development and make “Digital by Default” a reality.

**Finally**, a change to our leadership of the WY&H programmes. [Amanda Bloor](#) will now be the joint Senior Responsible Officer for the cancer work stream alongside Clive Kay who is the Chair of the Cancer Alliance. [Matt Walsh](#) will take on the role as Senior Responsible Officer for the elective care and the Standardisation of Commissioning Polices work stream. Both of these work streams are moving at pace and I am grateful for Amanda and Matt’s leadership.

Have a good weekend.

## What's happening next week?

- Jo Webster, Gordon Sinclair, Ian Holmes and Jonathan Webb are interviewing for the lay member roles of the Joint Committee next week. We are finalising the date for the interviews of the Independent Lay Chair, which will follow soon after.
- West Yorkshire and Harrogate Public Health Co-ordination Group will meet on Monday. This is chaired by Ian Cameron.
- West Yorkshire and Harrogate Urgent and Emergency Network Leadership Meeting will take place on Monday. This meeting is chaired by Adam Sheppard.
- The Directors of Finance from across the area will meet on Friday.

## What's coming up?

- A development session on the STP is being planned with West Yorkshire and Harrogate Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee for May.
- Cogara are running a programme called [Respiratory Commissioning Platform](#) which aims to provide a forum for collaboration and networking across the commissioning community through a series of interactive one-day, free-to-attend workshops (running from June to first week of July). There will also be a host of digital resources launched later in the year. The workshop series will be chaired by Noel Baxter (GP and Clinical Commissioner, NHS Southwark and PCRS-UK Executive Chair) and Sanjeev Rana (Prescribing Lead, West Essex CCG) and supported by an expert faculty. You can find out more [here](#)

## For information

- NHS England's participation team has produced updated statutory guidance on involving local people in commissioning decisions. It is made up of two documents:
  - ['Involving people in their own health and care'](#)
  - ['Patient and public participation in commissioning health and care'](#)
- Chris Ham, Chief Executive of The King's Fund, explains the opportunities and challenges of implementing Accountable Care Systems in an article for the BMJ, [read here](#).
- Dorset STP area will become one of the first areas to deploy a STP-wide shared care record. [Read more here](#).