

Friday 5 May 2017

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

The news is full of issues to do with health – mental health. Whether [Fiona Phillips discussing extreme stress](#), the Royal family’s “[Heads Together](#)” work, or the support that football clubs should give players in the wake of [Aaron Lennon’s mental illness](#), it seems we have woken up to the fact that everyone is susceptible to mental illness. This is a positive step forward and may be a generational shift that sees us truly appreciate that modern health systems look after people’s physical, mental and social care.

After so many stories raising awareness, the official event kicks in: next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. This national campaign educates the public about mental health to promote better mental health and wellbeing for all. This year the focus is on exploring how we can cultivate good mental health. It is an opportunity for all of us, not just those of us working in mental health services, to reflect on the strategies and resources we need to both shape a coherent approach to public mental health and the tools we, our families and our communities need to re-frame our ability to thrive in life. This all reflects the priorities in WY&H, where mental health is a priority in itself and features everywhere from “harnessing the power of communities” to urgent care. Our STP comms team will be supporting [#MHAW17](#) and highlighting the priority we give the issue in our STP.

The NHS is a political issue and in the election we expect positive asks to appear. The Mental Health Policy Group, a coalition of six organisations working for better mental health, have produced the [Manifesto for Better Mental Health](#). This manifesto sets out four specific areas for improvement: ensure fairing funding for mental health services; giving children a good start in life; improving health services for people with mental health problems; and better lives for people with mental health problems. The policy group very much want to see all parties re-commit to the full implementation of the [Five Year Forward View for Mental Health](#) as well as a funding settlement post 2020 which will provide vital increases in investment for mental health services. This is an influential group and its useful to note their thoughts.

This is reflected in another set of asks for the NHS Confederation which published [Securing a sustainable health and care system: Priorities for the next government](#) – a document which sets out ten asks of political parties, and those who form a government after the general election, to secure a sustainable health and social care system for generations to come. These asks include: a commitment to an NHS funding target, delivery of and an extended commitment to mental health and the creation of an NHS Homes Fund.

We await the party manifestos and note the emerging positions of the parties with interest. In the meantime, we will all collectively get on with planning, commissioning and providing care every day.

In doing so, it is clear that we have made great progress with our STP in recent times. Improved governance, streamlined organisations, capacity focused on what matters, a WY Acceleration Zone that is changing urgent care and improving waiting times in A&E, stroke plans that have engaged thousands of people, cancer alliances that will save thousands of lives, and collective leadership for the greater good.

What's been happening this week?

We held our monthly Leadership Day on Tuesday. The **Collaborative Forum** which is where the 11 Clinical Commissioning Groups come together to discuss priorities for local places and West Yorkshire and Harrogate work met in the morning. It was a packed agenda that included discussions on mental health, the stroke engagement work carried out earlier this year, tier 4 bariatric surgery, NHS RightCare opportunities across WY&H and some of the governance related actions we need to take to ensure our Joint Committee of CCGs runs as effectively as possible once it is established.

The CEOs of the Acute Trusts in WY&H met in the morning. They discussed existing programmes of work including pharmacy supply chain and elective surgery. They were joined for part of the meeting by colleagues from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service both to discuss the current pressure points and challenges in emergency care, and to focus on some of the technological and workforce solutions.

The Clinical Forum received an update from Professor Sean Duffy (Clinical Lead for the WY&H Cancer Alliance). The WY&H Cancer Alliance was established as part of the nationally driven delivery infrastructure to support the national cancer strategy and locally as the vehicle to support delivery of STP ambitions for cancer. Our leaders of commissioning and provider organisations have agreed to a single [“Cancer Delivery Plan”](#) which includes a set of ambitions and metrics.

Dawn Lawson from the Yorkshire and Humber Academic Health Science Network and Matt Ward joined the meeting for a discussion on how we ensure the sharing of best practice across WY&H and create the right environment and support for innovation. As we set out in our draft plan in October 2016, our ambition is to become an international destination for health innovation and our clinical leaders are central to us achieving this.

Linda Driver attended the meeting to update members on the engagement work, led by Healthwatch between 1 February and 15 March 2017 on the sustainability of quality stroke services and reducing the incidence of stroke happening in the first place, wherever possible. Engagement took place with the public and with our staff - over 900 people completed our engagement survey and we spoke to over 1500 people, providing us with many comments, all of which are very important to us.

At the STP System Leadership Executive Group we focussed our discussions on how the arrangements for financial control and risk management might need to evolve over the coming year; and made some decisions about how we use the additional STP programme money provided by NHS England in 2017/18.

The wider Leadership Team session in the afternoon focussed on what the recently published [Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View](#) means for our WY&H wide programmes on cancer, mental health, urgent and emergency care and primary and community services, along with our enabling programmes on workforce and digital & interoperability. Since publication of the Next Steps document, each of the SROs have been working with their teams to refresh their programmes, review existing work plans, identify any gaps or areas of risk in the current work plan, and consider how these might be addressed. The teams presented their findings with a specific focus on what our priorities for April 2018 might be.

Thea Stein and Kirsty Baldwin met with Local Medical Committee (LMC) Leads for West Yorkshire and Harrogate on Tuesday. LMCs are local representative committees of NHS GPs and represent their interests in their localities to the NHS health authorities.

What's happening next week?

- **Our STP place-based planners** are meeting on Tuesday next week. Joanne Poole will be joining the meeting to talk about how the Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Senate can support our place-based plans. The Clinical Senate is a clinical advisory body offering free and full, independent and impartial clinical advice on any commissioner or provider plans for service change. The senate provides evidence-based advice given in the best interests of patients and works in an open and transparent way independent of organisational or professional interests.
- **Our Programme Oversight Group** is meeting on Thursday next week. The purpose of this group is to explore dependencies and shared opportunities between our programmes, identify good practice that others might want to adopt, and identify risk and issues.

For information

The Kings Fund have published a two reports this week:

- [**Organising care at the NHS front line - Who is responsible?**](#) which looks at the reality of caring for acutely ill medical patients at the NHS front line and asks how care in hospitals can be improved. It comprises a series of essays by frontline clinicians, managers, quality improvement champions and patients, and provides vivid and frank detail about how clinical care is currently provided and how it could be improved.
- [**Caring to change: How compassionate leadership can stimulate innovation in health care**](#) which looks at compassion as a core cultural value of the NHS and how compassionate leadership can stimulate innovation in health care, encouraging people to find new and improved ways of doing things. It also describes four key elements of a culture for innovative, high-quality and continually improving care and what they mean for patients, staff and the wider organisation: inspiring vision and strategy; positive inclusion and participation; enthusiastic team and cross-boundary working and support and autonomy for staff to innovate.