

Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care - 15th January,2009

Report of the Director of Community Engagement and Primary Care Commissioning

World Class Commissioning Update

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides an update on World Class Commissioning. This is of growing importance to health scrutiny committees who have a key role in overseeing the commissioning decisions of their Primary Care Trust.

Background

2. This report follows on from previous reports brought to this committee on the Primary Care Trust's journey to becoming a World Class Commissioner. As part of this process, the PCT was required to produce a Strategic Plan – this is the overarching document that sets out our approach.
3. Our Strategic Plan sets out how we plan to improve the health and well being for everyone in the Dudley Borough and how we will work, with our partners, to realise this ambition over the next five years.
4. The plan outlines three high level strategic objectives:
 - To help people be as healthy as possible - to minimise a reliance on health and social care services by improving the well being of the population.
 - To make sure health services meet the needs of the local people - to become a World Class Commissioner of healthcare by integrating health needs assessment and people engagement (clinicians, service users, relatives and carers and the public).
 - To raise the quality of service provision.

So how did we arrive at these objectives?

5. Since the PCT was established just over 2 years ago we have invested significant time in ensuring that we not only understand the health needs of the community in Dudley but that we understand what people expect from us as their commissioner for health services and that we ensure we continually test our understanding of their priorities.
6. All of this work culminated in the production of our joint commissioning framework 'Seeing the Bigger Picture' which was published earlier in 2008.

7. This framework details 6 key commissioning intentions:

1. Improving communication
2. Be patient centred
3. Ensuring services work together
4. Promoting wellbeing
5. Promoting equality and diversity and reducing inequalities
6. Contributing to the wider local economy

Along with our commitment to ensuring a transparent commissioning process.

8. The framework was developed with partners at the local authority based on an extensive Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which looked at the changing needs of Dudley's population and highlighted a number of pressures for health and social care over the coming years including,

- Biggest causes of premature death are circulatory disease and cancer
- An increasing elderly population (52% increase in over 85s in next 12 years)
- Life expectancy is increasing more slowly in Dudley than elsewhere.
- There is a higher proportion of young people in BME categories than in the older population.
- Alcohol related diseases have risen sharply in recent years and we have one of the highest increases nationally in alcohol related admissions.
- Obesity levels have more than doubled in the last 10 years and we have particular issues in childhood obesity.

9. We have used this needs assessment along with the insight generated from the engagement work undertaken during 2007 to 2008 to look at where we should be focusing our attention as a PCT over the next 5 years and to develop our strategic plan.

What do we want to achieve through our strategic plan?

10. In order to achieve our vision of improving the health and wellbeing of the community we serve and to meet our strategic objectives we have to take action to reduce the impact of the trends mentioned above and for the next 5 years we have set ourselves the ten key goals of:

1. Tackling Obesity
2. Reducing Alcohol Misuse
3. Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing
4. Providing Systematic and Targeted Prevention
5. Care at the Appropriate Setting
6. Improving our Urgent Care Services

7. Managing Long Term Conditions
8. Improving Patient Safety and Outcomes
9. Improving Patient Experience
10. Championing Innovation and Excellence

11. These 10 key goals not only take into account the very local needs of Dudley's population but reconcile with the national and regional agenda and set the key delivery targets for NHS Dudley for the next 5 years.

So how do we know we are on the right track?

12. The PCT is being assessed as part of the World Class Commissioning Assurance process. There are key areas of 'competencies' which we have to develop within the organisation and we are measured against these:

- locally lead the NHS
- work with community partners
- engage with public and patients
- collaborate with clinicians
- manage knowledge and assess needs
- prioritise investment
- stimulate the market
- promote improvement and innovation
- secure procurement skills
- manage the local health system
- make sound financial investments

13. On the 19th November 2008 the PCT board were assessed by a Strategic Health Authority panel. The Director of Adult, Children and Housing Services at Dudley MBC was part of the team.

14. We will receive formal feedback on this panel day in February and initial feedback is very positive about the PCT and the wider health and social care economy, in terms of our ability to shape this challenging and ambitious agenda.

15. We were shortlisted this year for the Health Service Journal awards for World Class Commissioning and achieved very positive coverage in the journal as a result of the coverage of these awards.

What are the next steps?

16. Further work is underway to ensure that the key supporting strategies such as the obesity strategy, inequalities strategy and the emerging primary care strategy along with the Practice Based Commissioning plans all align with this overarching direction.

17. The PCT will continually review that direction to meet the needs of the local population whilst remaining on top of key government expectations and targets.

18. We will be refreshing plans in February in light of the national operating framework for 2009/10, which sets out key Government expectations from the NHS for the next twelve months. We will review our strategic plans once a year to ensure that we continue to have a positive impact on the health and well being of the Dudley community.

Finance

19. Report for information update – therefore it does not have financial implications.

Law

20. No legal implications.

Equality Impact

21. The PCT has expressed its commitment in one of the commissioning intentions, to promote equality and diversity and reduce inequalities. This is one of the key intentions that will inform all of our commissioning.

Recommendation

22. It is recommended that:-

- *This report is noted. Comments and feedback are welcome.*

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