

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Adults and wellbeing scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>24 June 2019</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>The future of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Clinical Commission Groups (CCG) consultation.</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Democratic services manager</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

## **Purpose and summary**

To consider the proposals, by Herefordshire and Worcestershire CCG to merge the existing four NHS CCGs (in Herefordshire, Redditch and Bromsgrove, South Worcestershire and Wyre Forest) to form a single CCG footprint for the whole of Herefordshire and Worcestershire by April 2021, with the (preferred) option to undertake this change earlier, by April 2020.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**That:**

- (a) the Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee review the CCG Consultation documents (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2) to determine any recommendations it wishes to make to the Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS CCGs**

## **Alternative options**

1. Having reviewed the documents and sought clarification of any issues from the Herefordshire and Worcestershire CCGs officers the committee may, having regard to the principles of good decision making either:
  - Determine to support the proposed merger; or

- Determine recommendations to the Herefordshire and Worcestershire CCG to consider specific additional information or actions to inform their decision making.

## Key considerations

2. The CCG has stated that *'There is an expectation that by April 2021 every Integrated Care System will have more streamlined commissioning arrangements to enable a single set of commissioning decisions at the Integrated Care System level. For Herefordshire and Worcestershire this will involve moving from four CCGs to a leaner, more strategic single CCG for Herefordshire and Worcestershire'*.
3. In achieving this there will be a change to the role of the CCG itself, shifting from commissioning to having a greater focus on strategic commissioning on a bigger geographical footprint making shared decisions with providers on how to best use resources, design services and improve population health. The CCG will also have a role in supporting providers to partner with local government and other community organisations at county or 'place' level, and in ensuring that GPs and community services are supported to deliver at their local level.
4. In Herefordshire and Worcestershire this will also include a shift of clinical leadership resources, realigning them into roles where they will be better able to influence service delivery through developing Primary Care Networks and the new investment being aligned to these groups.
5. All CCGs are required to reduce their running costs by 20% by 31 March 2020, which means finding a saving of nearly £2 million across Herefordshire and Worcestershire. By creating one single CCG, instead of the current four, the CCG estimates a saving of £2 million.
6. The adults and wellbeing scrutiny committee has statutory health scrutiny powers including the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning provision and operation of health services (not reserved to the children and young people scrutiny committee) affecting the area and to make reports and recommendations on these matters.

## Community impact

7. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council must ensure that it has an effective performance management system that facilitates effective and efficient delivery of planned services. Effective financial management, risk management and internal control are important components of this performance management system.
8. Within the NHS, there has been increasing emphasis on the need to understand and respond to the views of patients and the public about health and health services: the NHS Constitution, the Government's Mandate to NHS England and the NHS Operating Framework together provide a strong set of principles underpinning the NHS's accountability to the people it serves. Responding positively to health scrutiny is one way for the NHS to be accountable to local communities.

## Equality duty

9. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
10. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. All Herefordshire Council members are trained and aware of their Public Sector Equality Duty and Equality considerations are taken into account when serving on committees.

## **Resource implications**

11. The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources. It should be noted the costs of running scrutiny will be subject to an assessment to support appropriate processes.

## **Legal implications**

12. Section 9FA of and Schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000, Regulations 5 and 11 of the Local Authorities (committee system) (England) Regulations 2012 and Regulation 30 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and wellbeing boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 make provision for local scrutiny functions to review and scrutinise matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area.
13. The remit of the scrutiny committee is set out in part 3 section 4 of the constitution and the role of the scrutiny committee is set out in paragraph 2.6.5 of the constitution. The council is required to deliver a scrutiny function.

## **Risk management**

14. None in relation to this report; scrutiny is a key element of accountable decision making and may make recommendations to certain NHS bodies with a view to strengthening mitigation of any risks associated with the proposed decisions. Make reports and recommendations to certain NHS bodies and expect a response within 28 days.

## **Consultees**

15. A workshop was held on 13 June 2019 in order for members to contribute to the development of an annual work programme. At that workshop, the proposed merger of the CCG was identified as an item that the committee wishes to scrutinise
16. Members of the public are also able to influence the scrutiny work programme by suggesting a topic for scrutiny or by asking a question at a public meeting, for further details, please see the 'get involved' section of the council's website:

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 The future of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups

Appendix 2 The future of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups Consultation Survey

## **Background papers**

None identified.