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16th January 2017

Defend our NHS Wirral

Sent by e mail

defendournhswirral@gmail.com

I am writing in response to your subsequent e mail correspondence in which you ask some additional questions to which I have provided a response below.

1. Would you agree that anything related to the STP cannot be instituted without such consent and participation?

Yes.

2. How can the Healthy Wirral programme counteract the harm done to our health and care services by the STP programme, by related cuts and by the huge reductions in local authority funding for care services?

The Healthy Wirral programme has been co-produced to ensure that partners across the Wirral work toward the same objectives and meet the challenges associated with improving health and care services within the resources allocated.

3. The STP would produce massive changes and cuts to health and care services in Wirral. If Wirral's council has said that the plan is not in the public interest and when clearly it has not been agreed by the Wirral public, then as well as the need to consult with the Council committees, the same detailed process of consultation is required (by the Sedley guidelines if nothing else) with the wider public?

My response of the 16/12/16 stated that there had been acknowledgement that the development of the Cheshire and Merseyside STP has not been subject to appropriate levels of engagement. NHS Wirral CCG is committed to having meaningful engagement and consultation, in accordance with its statutory duty as any proposals are progressed as part of the Healthy Wirral programme.

4. Should not the public have the right to reject the STP?

Public comments are welcome.

5. Wirral Borough Council meeting held on 19/12/16

NHS Wirral CCG has noted the statement made at the meeting.

6. How can any STP related activity take place in these circumstances when it does not have *'the consent and participation of participant organisations'*?

There are many elements of the STP that have been derived from the Healthy Wirral programme and as I have stated, any proposals progressed will be through this programme and subject to scrutiny by the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. Contracting process 2017/19 – Do you agree that this is entirely different to previous years contracting processes?

No, other than the deadline for the agreement of contracts being brought forward to 23/12/16 the process for agreeing the contracts remains the same as in previous years.

8. Does Wirral CCG not share NHSE, NHSI and Liverpool CCG's view of the relationship between operational plans; the December contracts And STP's?

As I have previously stated, CCG operational plans drive the STP rather than the other way around.

9. Can you tell us if all the information in the STP which would allow fully informed decisions to be made is now in the public domain? This would include, for example, full and complete financial details with associated spreadsheets, operational details, staffing and workforce plans, and a risk register.

The STP and associated appendices are available on the CCG website, the publication of these documents is not directed by the CCG.

10. We were disappointed not to receive a response from other individual board members including the Chair. Thus we do not know the views of individual doctors for example on the board to one of the points made in the letters to them: that the outcomes of the STP process *'will potentially or actually place patients in jeopardy and at risk of avoidable serious harm and is not in the public interest. This contravenes the duties of nurses and doctors as defined by their statutory regulatory bodies'*.

It is not proportionate to send responses from individual members of the CCG Governing Body which is why an overall response was sent on 16/12/16, this response was shared with all members of the Governing Body and as previously stated we have made this available on the NHS Wirral CCG website. The CCG is a clinically led organisation and as such there is comprehensive clinical oversight and input through the governance structure including the Governing Body. The CCG places the highest importance on ensuring that the quality and safety of care delivered to patients is of the highest standard and any proposed changes to services are assessed to identify any impact accordingly.

11. Will you publish your further response and our associated correspondence in the same way?

We will publish this response which answers the specific questions detailed in your correspondence.

Whilst the CCG is responsive to your correspondence, we feel that we have answered your enquires in relation to the STP and contracting process for 2017/19. As detailed earlier, any proposals progressed in Wirral will be subject to scrutiny through local structures and will be subject to engagement and where appropriate, through formal consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Develing', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jonathan Develing
Accountable Officer, NHS Wirral CCG