

Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 11 April 2019

Report of: Neil Evans (Commissioning Director - Eastern Cheshire CCG)

Subject/Title: Future arrangements for Eastern Cheshire Parkinson's Disease Nursing Service

1. Report

- 1.1. This paper provides information with regards changes to the provision of nursing services supporting people living within NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG who have Parkinson's Disease. At the time of providing this update there remains elements of commercial confidentiality with regards future arrangements and therefore would propose to provide a further update to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 1.2. Until recently East Cheshire NHS Trust provided a nursing service to people with Parkinson's Disease. The service worked alongside other locally provided services including General Practice and Consultant led outpatient Neurology Services (which are delivered in eastern Cheshire by Salford Royal Foundation Trust).
- 1.3. Unfortunately the nurse who was employed to provide the service recently resigned and left the employment of East Cheshire NHS Trust in March 2019, leaving no staff in place to maintain the service. In early January East Cheshire NHS Trust approached NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG to suggest that it would be sensible that the CCG looked to commission the service from a specialist neuroscience provider on the basis that the new provider would have:
 - 1.3.1. Both the professional expertise and scale to ensure the service met the needs of our local populations;
 - 1.3.2. Greater ability to recruit and retain staff and therefore would provide additional resilience.
- 1.4. As a response to the loss of the East Cheshire NHS Trust service a number of short term actions took place:
 - 1.4.1. Prior to leaving her post the nurse reviewed all her case load and developed care plans for either GP or Consultant oversight of patients pending the implementation of the new provider. These plans were communicated to patients and the relevant clinicians involved in their care
 - 1.4.2. The CCG has provided updates to the Parkinson's UK, who in turn have provided details on the support available to our population.

1.4.3. The situation, and likelihood of a gap in provision, was highlighted to representatives of the Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 January.

1.5. In response to the need to develop a solution, and having explored the local options available to us, a provider of neuroscience services and NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG immediately began discussions about the provider offering a Parkinson's Nurse Service in eastern Cheshire. The principle to this has been agreed between the CCG and the provider but remains subject to the provider's final internal agreement, as well as contract signature. These actions are due to be completed imminently and the service will be then able to commence as soon as recruitment to the nursing post is completed.

1.6. Whilst other provider options have been explored the preferred provider, referenced in 1.5, is seen as the most appropriate option to meet the needs of the population of eastern Cheshire. There are opportunities for the new service to offer additional services including that:

1.6.1. The nurse is expected to be able to prescribe medication;

1.6.2. The larger team would give ability for cross cover.

1.7. When the new service is in place the provider will contact those patients on the case load to introduce the service and provide details of future arrangements.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The committee is asked to note the actions taking place in order to maintain services within eastern Cheshire.

2.2. NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG will keep the committee updated with progress in finalising the contractual agreement and the commencement of the new service.