

Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 11 April 2019

Report Title: Update on the Closure of the Specialist Oral Surgery and Orthodontics services by East Cheshire NHS Trust

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. To update the committee on the current position in respect of the specialist orthodontic and oral surgery services provided from Macclesfield General Hospital.

2. Background

- 2.1 Commissioners and the Trust have continued to meet weekly to ensure safe transfer of patients to alternative providers and as close to home as possible. The numbers of patients transferring is reducing on a weekly basis with the end point of agreement for transfer to alternative providers by the agreed service closure date.
- 2.2 Commissioners have reviewed any PALs issues passed to the NHS England Nursing Team from CCGs and none have been reported from the patients in the area.
- 2.3 Tom Knight met with Healthwatch Cheshire on 2/4/19 who have confirmed since October 2018 (when referrals were switched to alternative providers) there have been no issues reported about access to the services at Macclesfield.
- 2.4 Commissioners will be liaising with NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG who have recently completed a consultation exercise to identify any areas of good

practice. Although completed in different circumstances there will be opportunities to share the learning and build into the NHE England re-procurement.

- 2.5 Commissioners have recently responded to 1 MP letter from a constituent and a follow up response to a previous MP letter from another constituent.
- 2.6 Commissioners are currently developing the next steps in terms of future re-procurement of services as was described previously to the committee and would add the following for this update:

3. Managed Clinical Networks for Orthodontics and Oral Surgery

- 3.1. The purpose of a Managed Clinical Networks (MCN) is to ensure the highest quality standard of appropriate specialist care is provided to the population of Cheshire & Merseyside.
- 3.2. The MCNs enable the delivery of improved outcomes for patients, address health inequalities and utilise continuous quality improvement through pathway redesign and the best use of NHS resources.
- 3.3. The Managed Clinical Networks (MCN) will link all clinicians providing care within the specialty pathway regardless of setting or organisation to:-
 - Develop and implement a needs-led, evidence based care pathway in line with the commissioning guide which will deliver consistent, high quality care
 - Enable patient centred care which delivers equity of access and a high quality service to service users and their carers
 - Ensure that there is a mechanism for the patient voice to be expressed and heard in terms of any engagement activities
 - Advise on criteria to improve standards, quality, value and clinical outcome
- 3.4. The MCNs will play a key role in the future re-procurement of dental services and are fully supported by NHS England commissioners.
- 3.5. Updated orthodontic health needs assessment.
 - Need to understand full secondary care dataset
 - Agree timescale with Public Health England (PHE) to complete the work
 - Commissioners have a needs assessment report but it focusses largely on primary care orthodontics and was completed in 2018
 - Commissioners know that for East Cheshire Trust activity for Cheshire and Merseyside patients has been decreasing over the last two years

- Report findings from updated need assessment to Healthwatch and OSC
- 3.6. Develop our commissioning intentions.
- Based on national guidance if and where appropriate.
 - In conjunction with PHE and the MCNs for dentistry
 - Engagement with stakeholders including Healthwatch and OSC as previously reported
- 3.7. Develop a service specification.
- Based on service provision in line with the needs assessment
 - In conjunction with Public HE and the MCN
 - Engagement with wider stakeholders including Healthwatch and OSC as previously reported
- 3.8. It should be noted that commissioners are very keen to understand what the committee believes “good” looks like in terms of engagement with stakeholders.
- 3.9. Services across the dental pathway have been procured previously as part of a planned process and not precipitated by exceptional circumstances. Commissioners are in the process of agreeing resources to support this work.
- 3.10. Commissioners and the Trust have a tele-con scheduled on Friday 5/4/19 to discuss these matters further with the Committee Chair Stewart Gardiner.
- 3.11. Next meeting of commissioners and Trust is scheduled for Monday 8/4/19 in relation to the final cohorts of patients to be transferred to alternative providers.