Update: Commissioning latest

**Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust** – from Nick Roberts, chief clinical officer

1 October saw the official launch of the new integrated care organisation, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT). It is the first single organisation in the country to be responsible for acute and community healthcare, as well as adult social care services. This means that local people will benefit from being able to receive the services they need from a single provider, working alongside our GPs to provide great care closer to home.

Bringing these two trusts together is just the start of providing services that are more responsive to local needs. Investing in community care over the next few years will introduce new and improved services to better meet the needs of people living in Torbay and South Devon and will fundamentally change the way services are provided for the local community.

The creation of an integrated health and social care organisation is really important for the people of South Devon and Torbay. They will see more consistency across the system, receiving coordinated care that really meets individual needs.

A lot of people have worked very hard to ensure this has happened, to provide excellent joined-up care for everyone, now and for the future.

**Winter Plan 2015/16: potential move of hospital beds**

A reminder that the invitation to comment on our winter contingency plan closes on Thursday 15 October. The contingency plan outlines the potential temporary movement beds from Bovey Tracey and Ashburton & Buckfastleigh community hospitals to Newton Abbot Community Hospital. This would be done, if required, as a result of increased winter pressures. Further details, and the invitation to comment, are [here](#).

**Community services briefing**

Recently the CCG has been building its discussions with stakeholders about an emerging model of care for community services that will deliver the high-quality, responsive care and
support that we all want. To accompany these discussions, we have produced a briefing – the first issue of which is [here](#).

We will send these briefings out periodically, ahead of information being generally available, so that you will be better able to deal with any questions you might receive. If there are issues you think we should cover in future briefings, please let me know.

**New online booking system for physiotherapy**

We recently announced that patients can self-refer for physiotherapy using the Patient Knows Best online booking system rather than having to make a phone call. The physiotherapy patient leaflet ([here](#)) has been updated with this new information. Please encourage patients to book online if they have internet access, using this address – [www.sdhct.nhs.uk/physiopkb](http://www.sdhct.nhs.uk/physiopkb).

**Direct access to Depression and Anxiety Service**

The Depression and Anxiety Service has launched a new information area of Devon Partnership Trust's website. It includes a useful film to explain the range of problems the service can help with. It is a great way to show people, who may be concerned about contacting mental health services for the first time, how they can benefit from support. Support includes group sessions to help learn techniques to lift mood, one-to-one contact with psychological wellbeing practitioners, stress reduction and therapy interventions. People can contact the service in a variety of ways, without having to go through their GP, including via an online self-referral form. The website is [here](#).

**Update: Announcements**

**New medical director**

Dr Rob Dyer has been appointed as medical director for the new integrated care organisation Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust, succeeding Dr John Lowes. Dr Dyer has been a consultant at Torbay Hospital for 17 years. His clinical specialisms are in diabetes, endocrinology and thyroid problems, and he has been leading on the care model development for our integrated care organisation. He will work alongside Dr Lowes for a period of handover. Dr Dyer starts his new role on 1 December.

Dr Nick Roberts, CCG chief clinical officer, said: “Rob has a wealth of experience, in clinical terms and in leading on the development of the integrated care organisation. Our healthcare community will benefit greatly from his leadership as he continues the excellent work John has undertaken in recent years, joining up our services for patients across South Devon and Torbay.”

**Devolution of specialist wheelchairs and neurology outpatient services**

The Prescribed Specialised Services Advisory Group has agreed to the transfer of commissioning responsibility from NHS England to clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) for the following services for 2015/16.
• Adult specialist neurosciences services – NHS England to transfer the commissioning of all neurology outpatients from NHS England to CCGs, except where these have been referred by a consultant.
• Specialist services to support patients with complex physical disabilities (all ages) – wheelchair services – NHS England to transfer the commissioning of specialist wheelchairs from NHS England to CCGs.

Further details on the decision making process and the next steps are available on the NHS England website.

Health and Wellbeing Event at Stokenham – from John Venmore, chair of Chillington PPG

On 7 October the CCG, Chillington Health Centre and the Chillington Patient Participation Group jointly hosted this event which was attended by a capacity crowd from the large rural area covered by the practice. There were display stands prepared by a number of voluntary and other organisations concerned with the provision of care locally. Dr Sue Crawford, of the Chillington Health Centre and joint clinical lead of the Moor to Sea locality, gave an informative and well-received illustrated address. This was followed by discussion tables and then by a question-and-answer session based on questions submitted in advance.

The question time panel session heard questions put to the director of commissioning, Mr Simon Tapley, the joint clinical leads of the locality, Dr Ben Titford and Dr Sue Crawford, and, from Plymouth Community Healthcare, Mr Lewis Bell, deputy locality manager, and David McCauley, deputy director of operations. The latter’s participation was much appreciated because Chillington patients regard the South Hams Hospital in Kingsbridge as their local hospital. There is local concern about possible cross CCG border difficulties, including the fact that the hospital is administered and controlled from Plymouth.

The timing of the event, and of the Q&A session in particular, was set in the hope that parents picking up their children from the school opposite the parish hall would attend and participate. Notwithstanding extensive publicity, including through schools with a health-theme poster competition for primary school children, very few parents attended. The majority of those in attendance were above the age for retirement. More work is required if we are to achieve real local engagement with the younger members of our community.

The event was regarded as a success. Congratulatory comments were received on the number of people who attended. This was achieved through much local advertising and networking, coupled with support from the doctors and staff at the Chillington Health Centre. The promise of a panel of senior persons from both CCG areas and the South Hams Hospital to answer questions was important. Last but by no means least was the hard work and support provided by the CCG’s Engagement Lead, Jo Curtis and her team.
Your view on NHS England's patient & public participation policy and guidance for involving the public in commissioning

NHS England has been developing its approach to patient and public participation, and its policy team has recently placed two draft documents on the NHS England website for consultation. They are welcoming comments on two documents until 30 October.

Healthwatch Torbay

Healthwatch Torbay is holding its AGM on Wednesday 21 October, 4pm-6pm, at Paignton Library. The public event will include a presentation, progress report and financial information on the past year. Guest speakers will include Healthwatch England committee member Jenny Baker OBE and Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust (integrated care organisation) director Chris Winfield. To book your place at the AGM, please email info@healthwatchtorbay.org.uk or ring 08000 520 029.

Locality representatives

Patients, carers and voluntary groups engaging with our localities and strategic boards are invited to a meeting every two months to:

- Be updated and comment on CCG-wide initiatives
- Bring information and issues relating to their locality
- Share information across localities and provide mutual support.

September’s meeting included a discussion with CQC inspectors about how they involve Patient Participation Groups, and some time will be given to consider how the CCG will engage on its primary care commissioning strategy. Future meetings are 1pm-3pm at Pomona House in Torquay on the following dates: 17 November, 19 January, 15 March, 17 May, 19 July and 20 September. If you are interested in attending please email laura.voisey@nhs.net

Children’s Stop Flu Party

After the success of last year’s Stop Flu Party for Torquay children aged from two to four, a repeat event has been organised by locality lead Dr Sarah Rowe and Torquay practices. The event, at Living Coasts on October 17, will include entertainment, educational stalls and the opportunity for the children to be immunised. The immunisation is a simple nasal spray given by a member of the practice team. There are no injections. Further information is here.

Dementia-friendly event

The Coastal locality recently linked up with Senior Voice, Volunteering in Health and Alice Cross to host a dementia event, raising awareness and improving understanding of dementia in Teignmouth, Dawlish, Shaldon, Bishopsteignton and the surrounding villages.

The event was opened by Teignmouth’s mayor, Cllr Jacqui Orme, and included special guest speakers Dr Matthew Fox, Dr Trish Allen, Norrms McNamara and Dr Oleg Anichtchik. About 80 people attended the event, and they discussed the prevention, diagnosis, treatment of dementia and the support needed for those with dementia and their carers.
This was followed in the afternoon by workshops to discuss what being dementia-friendly means for the people and the locality, along with a staff information fair offering details of local activities and services. Anne Marie Morris, Conservative MP for Newton Abbot, closed the day and launched the Coastal locality as officially being dementia-friendly.

**PPG chairs and gender**

The National Development Team for Inclusion is running an anonymous survey to determine the number of GP practice Patient Participation Groups that are chaired by women, after it was suggested that men get more opportunities than women to progress in public involvement activities. The survey is [here](#) and the current results can be seen [here](#).

**Herald Express:** Mairead McAlinden, chief executive of Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust, the new integrated health and care organisation, writes about how the organisation will provide strong foundations for the future, [here](#).

**Herald Express:** Mandy Seymour-Hanbury, in her last column as chief executive of Torbay and Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust, writes about preparing to formally join with South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to become an integrated care organisation, [here](#).

**BBC:** More investment in mental health research would quickly save the health service money, a major European study suggests, arguing that UK research funding should be trebled, [here](#).

**BBC:** Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has offered to meet junior doctors’ leaders after the decision to ballot medics on industrial action over a new contract, [here](#).

**BBC:** People with the most common form of multiple sclerosis should be offered drug treatment earlier, the MS Society says, suggesting there is a “wait-and-see” approach that needs to end, [here](#).

**BBC:** GPs in England are to be offered a voluntary contract to provide 7-day-a-week cover for patients, David Cameron has announced, [here](#).

**Western Morning News:** Totnes MP Dr Sarah Wollaston, chairman of the health select committee, has joined calls for the publication of potentially damaging NHS funding figures, [here](#), and has also said that Jeremy Hunt must be clear on how he will prioritise NHS funding, as she calls him out on his lack of transparency, [here](#).

**Western Morning News:** Health chiefs in North Devon have defied their own senior medics’ “unambiguous and forcefully expressed advice”, in order to press ahead with a programme of bed closures, [here](#).
**BBC:** End-of-life care in the UK has been ranked as the best in the world, with a study of 80 countries by the Economist Intelligence Unit praising the quality and availability of services, [here](http://www.southdevonandtorbayccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/Pages/participation-update.aspx).

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**Previous issues are available on our website**
http://www.southdevonandtorbayccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/Pages/participation-update.aspx

**You can follow us on**
Twitter or our
Facebook locality pages:
- Coastal
- Moor to Sea
- Newton Abbot
- Torquay
- Paignton and Brixham

This is issue #12 of the Participation Update – 13 October 2015. We welcome feedback about its content as well as suggestions for who should be on the distribution list. Please contact [jo.curtis@nhs.net](mailto:jo.curtis@nhs.net)