

Southwark Borough Based Board meeting questions

Received from Irene Payne

1. Borough Board and SELCCG

Given the increasing remoteness of new NHS structures, how will the Board consult and work with local people and community groups so they can influence decisions? And services? What is the Board's accountability - Is it only accountable to SELCCG? How will the allocation and spending of public money be scrutinised? Who will scrutinise and challenge SELCCG on behalf of the public of Southwark?

Response: The Southwark Borough Based Board is a prime committee of the NHS South East London Clinical Commissioning Group (SEL CCG) and as such it is accountable to the SEL CCG Governing Body. It will receive delegated responsibility for the commissioning of specific local services and budgets from the SEL CCG. It will initially operate as an NHS decision making committee for NHS commissioners, with voting and membership reflecting this arrangement.

We are currently working with Southwark Council on developing an integration plan with the shared ambition to establish the borough based board as a committee in common between the NHS and Local Authority so that we can reduce inequalities and improve outcomes.

There are two GP leads on the borough based board who also sit on the SEL CCG Governing Body who bring their own local insights and experience to the decision making of the governing body. They will represent the voice of the borough and its member practices to the governing body, and act on behalf of the borough.

We have committed to engaging with Southwark residents and patients as well as clinicians and staff and to use their insights to shape local services and to provide assurance of local public engagement involvement and engagement activities to the relevant SEL committee. We will be further discussing with local people structures for engagement and how they might fit with other partners engagement structures and mechanisms.

SEL CCG has set up four task and finish groups which will inform the development of our approach to engagement. These are to agree and recommend terms of reference and membership of the Engagement Assurance Committee, to explore and propose options for digital engagement, to establish a menu of non digital engagement options that can be carried out in a socially distanced manner and to explore and recommend how we engage local people in Covid-19 recovery and reset, looking at changes made during the pandemic and future options including understanding people's experiences.

2. "Journey to a New Health and Care System"

What local consultation has there been on the plans set out in the NHS England and NHS Improvement Report "Journey to a New Health and Care System" published 24/04/20 and supported by the improvement London Office? It is stated that the integrated care systems

will drive change. What is the formal status of the 5 integrated care systems for London? Who are they accountable to? What does the report's proposal for "strict segregation of health and care" mean?

Response: The CCG will act in accordance with all relevant requirements made of it, as a statutory body, in considering any services changes should they be proposed. Journey to A New Health and Care System is a regional framework that all London ICS and STPs, as partnerships, have been asked to make an initial response to. Partners across the South East London ICS, including the CCG are involved in considering that framework and the type of responses that would be required by it. The framework has been issued for the initial response of London partners. It does not represent the CCG or ICS' plan for responding to recovery.

We are working with representatives from partners across the ICS including our local authorities and social care to develop plans that reflect the needs of our populations in south east London. The way in which we approach our plan is still under consideration and will be brought forward to sovereign bodies/partners in due course. It is inevitable that changes to services have had to be implemented in response to the current public health emergency. This has only been done where it is necessary to keep both the public and NHS staff safe. These are temporary changes and the CCG has made clear its commitment to engagement with local people in the ongoing planning processes, and this is also a very clear expectation within the regional framework.

OHSEL Integrated Care System is not a formally constituted organisation. It is a partnership of the organisations involved in planning and delivery of health and care for the 1.9 million people who live in our six boroughs. These include local authorities, SEL CCG, and providers of primary, community, mental health and acute services. As the south east London integrated care system our ambition is to deliver a clinically and financially sustainable system for the future, taking collective action to improve outcomes and address health inequalities in our population, however each of these organisations remain sovereign bodies with their own line of accountability.