

ENCLOSURE:
AGENDA ITEM:

Primary Care Commissioning Committee Part 1

DATE: 10 December 2020

VENUE: Videoconference

Voting Members present

Peter Ramrayka (Chair)	Lay Member: PCCC
Dr Angela Bhan	Borough Director Bromley
Nick Brown	
<i>(for Usman Niazi)</i>	Chief Finance Officer
Sarah Cottingham	Executive Director of Commissioning and Planning
Joy Ellery	Lay Member: PPI
Sam Hepplewhite	Borough Director Southwark
Neil Kennett-Brown	Borough Director Greenwich
Prof Simon Mackenzie	Secondary Care Doctor
Dr Adrian McLachlan	
<i>(for Dr Jonty Heaversedge)</i>	CCG Chair
Andrew Parker	
<i>(for Andrew Eyres)</i>	Strategic Director Integrated Health & Care Lambeth
Martin Wilkinson	Director of Integrated Care & Commissioning Lewisham

In attendance

Cllr Evelyn Akoto	London Borough of Southwark representative
Tom Brown	London Borough of Lewisham representative
Michelle Elston	CBC Programme Lead (Southwark)
Harry Goldingay	Senior Commissioning Programme Manager
Irene Grayson	Assistant Director of Primary Care (Greenwich)
Dr Nancy Kuchemann	Lead GP Southwark
Nick Langford	Assistant Head of Primary Care
Jan Matthews	Primary care Contracting and Performance Manager (Greenwich)
Dr Jacqueline Mcleod	Lead GP Lewisham
Kate Moriarty-Baker	Chief Nurse
Chima Olugh	Commissioning Manager Primary care (Lewisham)
Dr Andrew Parson	Lead GP Bromley
Dr Simon Parton	LMC representative
Folake Segun	Healthwatch representative
Nora Simon	Assistant Head of Primary Care
Sukh Singh	Assistant Director of Primary Care Service Delivery (Bexley)
Jill Webb	Head of Primary Care
Julian May (notes)	Head of Governance

1. Welcome from the Chair and Apologies for Absence

1.01 Peter Ramrayka welcomed attendees.

1.02 Apologies were received from Sid Deshmukh, Dr Sabah Salman, Dr Ruchira Paranjape, Stuart Rowbotham, Usman Niazi and Andrew Bland

2. Declarations of interest

2.01 No further declarations or amendments to the conflicts of interest register were made.

3. Minutes of meeting on 12 November 2020 and Actions

3.01 The committee **agreed** the minutes of the meeting on 12th November 2020 to be an accurate record.

3.02 The action log was updated.

4. Matters arising

4.01 Folake Segun noted that the meetings were currently not taking place in public, and asked if the notes of the meeting could still be published on the website, as healthwatch members had not been able to find a description of what was happening. **Action JMay to check wording was on the website.**

5. Report on urgent planned or unplanned decisions and those under Chair's action

5.01 There were no decisions to report.

6. Report of decisions made by Officers under SOP

6.01 Jill Webb noted officer's decisions had been required in Greenwich and Southwark.

7. Recommendations to the PCCC for decision

7a. Blackheath PMS Branch site closure (Greenwich)

7.01 Jill Webb noted that the practice had plans to close the site and consolidate services on its other site before the pandemic as it was only being used for three or four sessions per week. There was clear evidence of engagement with the public on these proposals from November 2019 and February 2020. Due to the social distancing and patient flow challenges during the pandemic the site was closed, however it should have re-opened on 1 July when normal services were resumed. The practice had been co-operative but had not been able to submit a timely business case for the continued closure, and had not been able to meet its PPG; however it had informed patients that the site had been closed. Commissioner capacity in the borough was also stretched, which meant it had not been possible to bring a business case for consideration until today.

7.02 Jill Webb noted that the business case identified improvements to the main site allowing 30 Clinical sessions to be held, an increase from the previous 26 across both sites. The distance between the two sites was 1.6 miles and the main site had excellent public transport links. Blackheath Standard surgery, which was 200 yards away from the Blackheath site being closed, had indicated it had capacity to accept new patients. It was proposed to claw back costs for premises costs from July to December, in recognition that a number of small surgery sites had to temporarily close between March 20 and June 20 (inclusive) due to challenges in patient flow, and reimbursement continued. However, in this case, the practice had not re-opened its branch surgery in July, at odds with other GP contractors. The practice had confirmed that housebound patients would not be affected by the closure.

7.03 NKB added support for the proposals as borough director, the branch surgery was small and patients would be well served by other practices in the area.

7.04 Folake Segun noted the good attempts at engagement with the public by the practice.

7.05 The primary care commissioning committee **APPROVED** the permanent closure of the Blackheath PMS (Woodlands and Charlton Road Surgeries) branch site at 67 Charlton Road from 1 July 2020.

7b Older People Care Homes GP Service – APMS Contract Extension (Southwark)

7.06 Jill Webb noted that the proposal included a request to extend the APMS contract outside the delegated authority of officers and this was the reason this particular matter had been brought to the committee.

- 7.07 Michelle Elston described the benefits of the service being provided under the contract, with support provided by doctors, nurses and allied health professionals visiting care homes. Commissioners actively worked with colleagues to ensure the relationships were collaborative across providers. After examining against the DES requirements it was found to exceed the national requirements as well as those set by commissioners. IT was therefore proposed to move forward with this support for the population which would be on a cost neutral basis.
- 7.08 Dr Simon Parton praised the report and asked if best practice could be shared across the whole of south east London. Michelle Elston noted that other primary care network leads had been in conversation to share widely. Folake Segun also supported the extension and looked forward to the similar standards being replicated elsewhere across south east London.
- 7.09 The primary care commissioning committee **APPROVED** the 2 year extension of the Extended Care Homes GP Services contract with Quay Health Solutions and endorsed revisions to the service specification to take in to account the requirements of the PCN Network DES and additional enhancements.

7c AT Medics Ltd – Change of Control Request

- 7.10 Harry Goldingay noted that there had been discussion on the request by AT Medics Limited for change of control in the private part 2 session, which had looked at some aspects of due diligence which were commercial in confidence.
- 7.11 Harry Goldingay explained that AT Medics Ltd held 34 APMS contracts across 13 London CCGs, including 7 contracts in south east London. AT Medics Ltd was wholly owned by AT Medics Holdings LLP, and all shares of AT Medics Holdings LLP were currently held by the directors of AT Medics Limited. It was proposed that all these shares be acquired by Operose Health Ltd. Operose Health Ltd was ultimately owned by Centene Corporation, an US company.
- 7.12 The APMS contract allowed a change of control to be made subject to approval by commissioners and also allowed commissioners to request conditions for this approval. A co-ordinated approach to this approval from the CCGs affected in London had been led by south east London CCG.
- 7.13 Questions that had arisen in relation to the change had included whether the change amounted to a new contractor, in which case there would be the potential for a challenge under procurement regulations. Legal advice obtained by the CCG was that this should not be considered a change in regulation as the holder of the contract remained AT Medics Limited.
- 7.14 Potential risks to the NHS had been investigated; the risk with the most impact would be service failure as there were 34 contracts and would have serious repercussions on patient care and also financial consequences. Legal advice had also been sought on appropriate due diligence and the outcomes of this work had been presented to the committee in part 2 meeting in private. One element of these investigations was not yet available due to capacity issues at Companies House, and so final approval would be subject to Chair's action to confirm this had been received and was satisfactory. Based on the outcomes so far no concerns were expected.
- 7.15 The commissioners were able to set conditions on their consent to the change, and advice had been sought on appropriate conditions such as setting limits to any changes to staffing or governance arrangements. However legal advice had warned that these conditions would be extremely difficult to define in such a way that they could be incorporated into the contract variation.

- 7.16 Jill Webb noted that decisions would be taken across December by the PCCCs in CCGs affected by the change, and approval by all these committees would be required for the change of control to be approved.
- 7.17 Simon Parton noted that there had been work on due diligence and that there would be no perceptible change in the patient services. He pointed out that there may be some themes in relation to this approval that may generate some public interest and suggested that it would be good to publish the papers on the website. Jill Webb noted that the papers would be published on the website as part of the next public meeting but could be drawn attention to in the meeting.
- 7.18 Dr Kuchemann asked if there were any concerns given that there was eventually ownership outside the country if NHS money was being transferred out of the country, or if there was any effect on commitments such as the London living wage. Jill Webb noted that with legal advice a number of assurances had been sought. There were safeguards about patient data transfer and assurances around staffing and noted that AT Medics Limited would still be the APMS contract holder.
- 7.19 Peter Ramrayka noted that due diligence had been undertaken however one item was outstanding and so the proposal included Chair's action in relation to this.
- 7.20 The primary care commissioning committee **APPROVED** the recommendations.

8. Any other Business

- 8.01 Peter Ramrayka recorded his sincere thanks to primary care groups within the CCG for all the hard work done during the covid19 epidemic, and additional work on the Covid-19 vaccination programme, and reflected on the extra effort put in during these difficult times.

11. Date of the next meeting 11 February 2021 2-4pm