

Case for Change workshop feedback – Thank you for your valued contributions

More than 100 members of staff, patient and partner organisation representatives came together last month as part of our collaborative work to sustain and improve local services.

They attended the first of three workshops planned over the coming months following the recent publication of a case for change that sets out the challenges facing ten services provided by East Cheshire NHS Trust (ECT) and Stockport NHS Foundation Trust (SFT).

The event at Alderley Park Conference Centre brought together clinicians and managers from both trusts along with commissioners from NHS Cheshire and Merseyside and Greater Manchester Integrated Care, primary care colleagues, public health colleagues from Cheshire East Council and Stockport Council, and a number of patient and voluntary sector representatives to start to explore possible ways of addressing the issues set out in the case for change.

Karen James, CEO of SFT welcomed everyone to the event, saying; "It is really exciting to bring everyone together from the two organisations and different Places to develop sustainable services for the future.

"Whilst the focus is on hospital services, it is absolutely clear that these services need to be part of a wider system which spans prevention, primary care and community services so it was really important to have those voices with us, shaping how services can work going forward."

John Hunter, Medical Director for ECT; Andrew Loughney, Medical Director for SFT, and Peter Williams, Independent Clinical Advisor, gave an overview of the clinical case for change. Approved by NHS England it sets out the purpose of the collaborative work, the existing strengths and challenges of each service, and the commitment of both trusts to work together to sustain and improve local services.

Jonathan O'Brien, Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships for SFT, and Katherine Sheerin, Executive Director of Transformation and Partnerships at ECT, explained that by working together some improvements may be identified that could be rapidly implemented for the benefit of local people.

Any proposals that potentially could result in significant change to services would be subject to a rigorous formal process, including extensive engagement and consultation, in line with legislation and best practice. Workshop attendees joined a number of groups facilitated by clinical leads to look in detail at each specialty, encouraging participants' reflections, ideas and feedback on the challenges local services face, and together exploring what the future may look like.

John Hunter, Medical Director, East Cheshire NHS Trust said; "I'm delighted with the attendance and the engagement in our first workshop from all of the teams and stakeholders who demonstrated a strong appetite to work together to improve services for local people in the long term. We are very much looking forward to the next event."

Common themes from the workshop include:

- the desire for closer collaboration between both trusts,
- improved integrated working with primary and community care,
- a greater focus on prevention and staying healthy,
- supporting self-management for patients with long term conditions,
- greater use of modern technology.

With thanks to all clinical leads involved in the workshops to date:

- Maternity, Gynaecology & Paediatrics - Lucy Tomlinson (SFT) Maternity Clinical Lead, and Harriet Nardo (ECT) Maternity Clinical Lead;
- Paediatrics - Elizabeth Newby (SFT) Paediatrics & Neonates Clinical Lead;
- Anaesthetics & Critical Care - Matthew Jackson (SFT) Critical Care Clinical Lead and Gordon Yuill (SFT) Anaesthetics Clinical Lead;
- Cardiology - Helen Goodwin (ECT) Cardiology Clinical Lead;
- General Surgery - Mohammed Sadat (ECT) General Surgery Clinical Lead;
- Trauma & Orthopaedics - Barnes Morgan (SFT) Consultant Orthopaedic & Trauma surgeon (on behalf of David Johnson - (SFT) - Trauma & Orthopaedic Clinical Lead));
- Imaging - Robin Sil (ECT) Imaging Clinical Lead;
- Gastroenterology & Endoscopy - Wisam Jafar (SFT) Gastroenterology & Endoscopy Clinical Lead;
- Diabetes & Endocrinology - Covered by Andrew Loughney (SFT) Medical Director, as a Diabetes Clinical Lead is still to be appointed.

The next Case for Change workshops will take place on Friday 5th August and Friday 16th September. If you want to contribute your ideas or suggestions to any of the specialist areas being considered please email ecn-tr.localvoices@nhs.net.