

Councillor Arash Fatemian
Chairman Oxfordshire Joint Health
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
County Hall

Jubilee House
5510 John Smith Drive
Oxford Business Park South
Cowley
Oxford
OX4 2LH

By email:
arash.fatemian@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01865 336795
Email: louise.patten@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk

20 August 2018

Dear Arash

Re Population Health Management approach to local planning (including Wantage Community Hospital)

Thank you for your letter of 31 July 2018 asking for greater clarity about the future options for Wantage Community Hospital and the likely timescale for such options to be available for public consultation. In the spirit of our integrated working we are happy to provide you with a joint response.

Your letter includes a useful summary of the history of the temporary closure of the beds at Wantage Community Hospital. As we have discussed before we think it is important that we move on in a different way and particularly ensure that this is taken forward by the NHS working with the Local Authorities through the Health and Wellbeing Board. In June we agreed to bring back to the September HOSC meeting:

Outline timetable/framework for working with local communities to review local health needs, current and projected demographics and local assets to inform service change (incl. physical assets – describing what population needs are – if significant change to services, have a duty to consult)

We will present a paper to the 20 September HOSC meeting that will set out the emerging framework we are proposing to follow in all localities in Oxfordshire; to determine the health and care needs of the population and how they can be met today and in the future. This approach will be evidenced based and include:

- population health and demographics review
- local assets mapping
- identification of good practice
- consideration of the impact of the Oxfordshire 'Growth Deal'
- options development and review.

Public involvement and engagement will be critical throughout this approach along with the involvement of clinicians and care professionals.

We will emphasise that this work will be advanced and championed by commissioners and providers in Oxfordshire and owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board, with a strong sense of co-production at District level. The 20 September HOSC meeting will be an opportunity to seek the views of HOSC members on this emerging approach. The paper will include an outline timetable for how this approach could be advanced in Wantage.


We are committed to providing safe services and we completely understand the frustrations of the local population but we have to balance getting this absolutely right in terms of analysis of both current and future population needs and public involvement. The approach we will follow in Wantage and needs based review will include analysis of bed requirements. We will emphasise that this can only be done as an integral part of the wider approach described above.

Our proposals are at an early stage; HOSC will have the opportunity to input before they are signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board. We look forward to discussing this at the HOSC meeting on 20 September 2018.

Yours sincerely



Louise Patten
OCCG Chief Executive



Stuart Bell CBE
OHFT Chief Executive