

Oxfordshire Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 22 April 2021

Title of Paper: Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group: Key & Current Issues (non-COVID related)

Purpose: The following paper aims to provide the Oxfordshire Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee with an update on:

1. Transfer of services provided by Oxfed
2. Re-procurement of MSK services

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Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group: Key & Current Issues

1. Transfer of services provided by OxFed

As HOSC members will be aware OxFed, the Oxford City GP Federation had given notice to OCCG to cease trading at the end of March 2021. GP federations are a not-for-profit healthcare organisations providing NHS services. OxFed made the decision to cease trading in light of the NHS Long Term Plan, which has established smaller Primary Care Networks (PCNs) to deliver patient care closer to home. OCCG are grateful to the staff at OxFed for their hard work and commitment to improving primary care services in the city.

Over the past six months we have worked with OxFed, the City PCNs and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust to ensure the safe transfer of the services commissioned by OCCG from OxFed. These include:

- *Primary Care Visiting Services (PCVS)*: these services provide early assessment of patients in their own homes to mobilise care closer to home and prevent admissions to hospital where possible
- *The Improving Access Service*: this service aims to improve access to GP services including sufficient routine appointments at evenings and weekends to meet locally determined demand, alongside effective access to out of hours and urgent care service. More recently this service has been focused to support the PCN run vaccination services
- *City Social Prescribing Services*: this service provides holistic support to patients from a range of vulnerable groups. It aims to help improve and maintain people's health and wellbeing by seeking to address their needs in a holistic way and by supporting individuals to take greater control of their own health

The national Improving Access scheme and Oxfordshire PCVS are both county wide services with contracts coming to an end on 31 March 2021. The City Social Prescribing Services is only available in the City but has been supported by the Primary Care Network social prescribers across the rest of the county. The contract for this service was also due to end at the end of March 2021. As is normal practice, OCCG has undertaken a review of these services considering national direction, patient experience information and engaging with current providers, practices and system partners.

In December 2020, it was agreed that OCCG would recommission PCVS across the county from the current providers but as OxFed had previously informed us that they would cease trading on 31 March 2021 the CCG looked to identify an alternative provider for the City Population. The CCG considered the options available and agreed that in line with the NHS Long Term Plan national direction, where there is an increasing emphasis on integration and collaborative local service delivery, the CCG would commission PCVS for the City population from a

collaboration of the City Primary Care Networks. This would enable service continuity to be maintained.

In line with the national direction, it was agreed that the improving access services are commissioned through Primary Care Networks until such time as the national review and national specification for PCNs is available. In line with the current repurposing of improving access to support the vaccination campaign a new service will replace the existing service to ensure flexibility to support general practice and their patients and also maintain access.

The context in which social prescribing services now operate across Oxfordshire has changed significantly since the City service was commissioned as a result of the development of PCNs, the additional role reimbursement scheme (ARRS) and the focus on inequalities and health improvement. The Network directed enhanced services (DES) contract requires PCNs to “provide the PCN’s patients with access to a social prescribing service.”

As a result, a decision was taken not to recommission the city social prescribing service in its current form as this has now been replaced by the national additional role reimbursement scheme. Instead OCCG will commission from the City PCNs additional social prescribing link workers to work alongside and complement existing and future ARRS Social Prescribing link workers and increase the focus on health inequalities and health improvement in the City. As part of PCN development and the ARRS funding, the City PCNs are already employing, health and wellbeing coaches, care coordinators and social prescribers and plan to recruit more during 2021/22.

To ensure continuity of services for the City population and for practices while they prepare to deliver the Improving Access and PCVS services outlined above, OCCG has agreed to extend the contracts until 31 May 2021 and for OxFed to sub-contract their delivery to Oxford Health. This will enable a longer transition time.

OCCG is committed to the continuation of these services and supporting a smooth transition and the retention as many of the existing staff as possible.

2. Re-procurement of musculoskeletal services

The contract for the provision of the Musculoskeletal Assessment Triage and Treatment (MSK MATT) service, currently provided by Healthshare, is due to end 31 October 2022. The service was last commissioned for Oxfordshire in 2016/17 with the current contract starting in October 2017. The service has completed its three-year contract term and has entered the final two-year extension. As such, OCCG has commenced a programme of re-procurement for this service, which will take approximately two years to complete.

This MSK MATT service is a large service to commission, receiving in the region of 5,000 referrals per month in Oxfordshire, and the quality of which has important knock-on effects across the whole MSK care system.

This re-procurement is also taking place at a time when the system wide MSK service model is being reviewed in Berkshire West CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG, our integrated care system (ICS) partners, presenting an opportunity for closer working across the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) ICS to develop a cohesive MSK approach.

The re-procurement will include reviewing service feedback and input from the Pain Management Clinic, OUH Orthopaedics, OUH Rheumatology, the MSK Taskforce, primary care and the current provider Healthshare. We will also involve patients and the public in the procurement process, review feedback we already have from patient and GPs, and synthesise relevant patient surveys. As well as seeking feedback and review guidance from relevant national bodies and local groups. The HOSC has previously had extensive engagement in MSK through the MSK Task and Finish Group approach and the learning from this work will also be incorporated.