

Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2019

Review of Stroke Rehabilitation Services in County Durham



Report of Corporate Management Team

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Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present to the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee a range of future service model options in respect of stroke rehabilitation services for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG CCGs and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust.

Executive summary

- 2 The Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has previously met to consider plans and proposals by County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust in conjunction with North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG to undertake a review of stroke rehabilitation services across County Durham.
- 3 Reports and presentations have been considered by the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at previous meetings which has set out the key rationale for the review of stroke rehabilitation services; plans for patient and stakeholder engagement to ascertain experiences with the current service model; the results of that engagement activity and how this was to be used to formulate future service model options which could be subject to public consultation.
- 4 This report and the attached supplementary reports and presentation slides from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation

Trust set out a range of future service model options for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan.

Recommendations

- 5 Members of the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to:-
 - a) Receive this report;
 - b) Consider and comment on the reports and presentation slides from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust on the range of future service model options for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan.

Background

- 6 At its meeting held on 2 May 2018, the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a presentation which set out the rationale for a review of stroke rehabilitation services. The presentation set the context of stroke rehabilitation within the previous review undertaken of acute stroke services which led to the centralisation of acute stroke services at University Hospital North Durham (UHND).
- 7 At that meeting members were advised that a major driver to review services was below target performance in respect of the number of patients treated by a stroke skilled early supported discharge team – 2.6% for North Durham CCG and 3.5% for DDES CCG against a national average of 35%.
- 8 There were also concerns that the average length of stay for stroke rehabilitation patients at Bishop Auckland Hospital was far in excess of best practice. There was also evidence of a limited availability of healthcare professional input as part of the stroke pathway particularly in respect of occupational therapy; speech and language therapy and physiotherapy.
- 9 CCGs and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation trust reported upon plans to undertake patient and stakeholder engagement as part of the review and committed to bringing details of the proposed engagement activity back to the Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC.
- 10 A further report was considered by the Committee on 6 July 2019 which set out details of the proposed engagement activity which included discussions with patient reference groups across County Durham; bespoke engagement led by Healthwatch County Durham with stroke

patients and their carers and families; specialist health networks; established stroke groups and the County Council's Area Action Partnerships.

- 11 The activity would include a call for evidence to review best practice in respect of stroke rehabilitation services and understand where improvements could be made. This would also require gathering the experiences of local people and those established stroke support groups which would inform a service improvement project.
- 12 It was anticipated at the time that this work would be completed within 12 weeks and a report brought back to the Committee.
- 13 At the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 November 2018, an update presentation was given to members which set out the emerging themes from the engagement process and also advised that the engagement activity was to be extended to ensure that as many patients and stakeholders as possible from across County Durham and Darlington were given the opportunity to respond to the process.
- 14 Key emerging themes were that patients had positive experiences of the acute hospital stroke service; there was limited dedicated community-based stroke provision; patients felt too many people were involved in their care; care closer to home would be valued along with peer support.
- 15 The engagement activity had also identified gaps within existing stroke rehabilitation services which included that the current pathway promoted multiple transfers of care; therapy assessment takes place within a hospital setting rather than in the person's home setting; community-based rehab services are inequitable across County Durham; rehabilitation within the community does not provide the intensity required as detailed in national guidance and that patient based outcomes could be improved upon e.g. time for therapy-based interventions.
- 16 The final report detailing the findings from the engagement activity was considered by the Committee at its meeting held on 18 January 2019. In addition to the issues previously identified, members were informed that there were communication challenges at various points of the current stroke pathway. Patients wanted emotional wellbeing and support particularly after discharge from hospital with a more consistent community rehabilitation service provided which would include a longer period of therapy once discharged from hospital.
- 17 At the meeting, the Committee were informed that the findings of the engagement activity would be discussed at a meeting with a range of

clinical staff to further develop options and appraise these against standard criteria which includes clinical evidence base, accessibility and financial sustainability. This exercise would include representation from both community and hospital-based clinicians, primary care, regional clinical network and the Stroke Association and the views of patients and carers will also be included.

- 18 Following this meeting, a preferred option will be formed as a result of this appraisal and a business case will be developed on that basis. The business case was to be presented back to the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and would include costings for any preferred option across County Durham and Darlington.
- 19 It was noted that any potential service changes may be subject to staff engagement, which will be carried out as part of the ongoing process with staff helping to shape any future model of care. Assurance from NHS England on any proposed future service change and on the process to date and going forward would also be sought.
- 20 This report and the attached supplementary reports and presentation slides from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG CCGs and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust set out a range of future service model options in respect of stroke rehabilitation services for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan.
- 21 Representatives of North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG CCGs and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust will be in attendance to present the reports and proposals for public consultation in respect of the review of stroke rehabilitation service in County Durham.

Considerations

- 22 Members are asked to consider and comment on the reports and presentation slides from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust on the range of future service model options for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan.

Main implications

Legal

- 23 This report has been produced in accordance with the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and wellbeing boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 as they relate to the National Health Service Act 2006 governing the local authority health scrutiny function.

Consultation

- 24 Reports and presentations have been considered by the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at previous meetings which set out plans for patient and stakeholder engagement to ascertain experiences with the current service model and the results of that engagement activity and how this was to be used to formulate future service model options.
- 25 This report and the attached supplementary reports and presentation slides from North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG CCGs, County Durham Healthwatch and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust set out a range of future service model options for public consultation and the associated communications and engagement plan.

Conclusion

- 26 The Committee has previously considered reports and presentations by County Durham CCGs and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust setting out the proposed plans for patient and stakeholder engagement which would inform the development of options for the future service model for stroke rehabilitation services across County Durham and associated consultation, communications and engagement plans.
- 27 Members are asked to receive this report and presentation and consider proposals for patient and stakeholder consultation and engagement as well as the future service model options being consulted upon in respect of stroke rehabilitation services across County Durham.

Background papers

- Agenda, Minutes and Reports to the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 2 May 2018, 6 July 2018, 15 November 2018 and 18 January 2019.

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

This report has been produced in accordance with the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and wellbeing boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 as they relate to the National Health Service Act 2006 governing the local authority health scrutiny function.

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

The report and presentations set out proposals for statutory consultation in respect of future service model options for stroke rehabilitation services in County Durham.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken in respect of the proposals and is included within this report.

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable

