

Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2021

Integrated Care Systems Update



Report of Paul Darby, Interim Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide members with an update in respect of the recently published NHS England and NHS Improvement paper "Integrating care – Next steps to building strong and effective integrated care systems across England" and associated calls for views on the options contained within the paper.
- 2 The report sets out the key issues within the consultation report and also sets out a response to the report prepared on behalf of the Committee and signed off by the Chair of the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWHOSC).
- 3 The report also invites the Committee to agree to the inclusion of a further report back to members as part of its 2021/22 work programme.

Executive summary

- 4 The AWHOSC has previously received reports on the establishment of Sustainability and Transformation Plans to deliver a new approach in helping ensure that health and care systems are built around the needs of local populations. The North East was covered by two separate STPs. The Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP and the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP.
- 5 The two draft STPs were published in November 2016.
- 6 On 19 June 2019, the North East and North Cumbria was confirmed by NHS England as one of a number of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) across the Country. The ICS is a collaboration of NHS commissioners and providers, and our partners, and not a new organisation with

statutory powers. The majority of its work is focused in places and neighbourhoods but, alongside this, the ICS provides a mechanism to build consensus on issues that need to be tackled at scale.

- 7 The new ICS and associated Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) have replaced the previously agreed Sustainability and Care Partnerships with a new operating model based around 1 ICS and 4 ICPs.
- 8 In November 2020, NHS England and NHS Improvement published a paper entitled “Integrating care - next steps to building strong and effective integrated care systems across England.” The paper set out proposals for legislative reform and opened up a discussion with the NHS and its partners about how ICSs could be embedded in legislation or guidance.
- 9 Building on the NHS's long term plan, the report sets out a renewed ambition for how greater collaboration between partners in health and care systems can be supported in order to help accelerate progress in meeting the most critical health and care challenges.
- 10 It details how systems and their constituent organisations would accelerate collaborative ways of working in the future. From April 2021 this would require all parts of the health and care system to work together as integrated care systems involving :-
 - Stronger **partnerships in local places** between the NHS, local government and others with a more central role for primary care in providing joined-up care;
 - **Provider organisations** being asked to step forward in formal collaborative arrangements that allow them to operate at scale; and
 - Developing strategic **commissioning** through systems with a focus on population health outcomes;
 - The use of **digital and data** to drive system working, connect health and care providers, improve outcomes and put the citizen at the heart of their own care.
- 11 The document also described options for giving ICSs a firmer footing in legislation which was likely to take effect from April 2022. These proposals sit alongside other recommendations aimed at reducing legislative barriers to integration across health bodies and with social care, to help deliver better care and outcomes for patients through collaboration and to join up national leadership more formally.
- 12 A copy of the report is included within this report at appendix 2.

- 13 NHS England and NHS Improvement invited views on the proposals by Friday 8 January 2021.
- 14 In view of the extremely short timeframe within which to formulate a response to the document on behalf of the committee, the Head of Strategy, Resources in conjunction with the Chair of the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed a response for submission to NHS England and NHS improvement by the aforementioned deadline.
- 15 Key issues identified as part of the response to the consultation paper include:-
 - The establishment of the North East and North Cumbria ICS has been subject to considerable scrutiny at a regional, subregional and local level;
 - the need for an integrated health and social care system built upon a partnership of equals involving the NHS, local government and other key partners is supported;
 - The formal establishment of the ICS and associated governance arrangements must include provision for health scrutiny which does not appear to be referenced within the consultation paper. Assurances were sought that robust health scrutiny arrangements would feature within any ICS governance arrangements established in statute;
 - the devolution of power and resource from the centre to regional based ICSs would be welcomed provided existing place based collaborative partnerships for health and wellbeing continue alongside existing health and wellbeing boards and statutory health OSCs;
 - The importance of NHS provider collaboratives is acknowledged and necessary to address NHS workforce pressures in the recruitment and retention of key medical staff across specialised services;
 - The reference to joint working with local authorities and the voluntary sector in respective place-based partnerships is welcomed and where partnership working between the NHS and local government is embedded and mature this should be supported with devolved resources and funding ;
 - County Durham has an excellent track record for health and social care integration and the ICS is urged to support existing arrangements within County Durham at the ICP level to include primary care networking;

- The reference to the establishment of clinical commissioning groups on the same footprint as ICSs is a departure for plans for the North East and North Cumbria. There are concerns about a coterminous ICS/CCG and these need to be discussed and assurances sought that any future CCG model retains the required resources within County Durham;
- 16 A copy of the response together with that from the North East and North Cumbria ICS lead office are attached at appendices 3 and 4.
- 17 It was intended that representatives from the North East and North Cumbria ICS office would update members at today's meeting but they were unable to attend. They have agreed to attend a future meeting of the committee to provide an update on the outcome of the consultation and what this may mean for the North East and North Cumbria ICS.

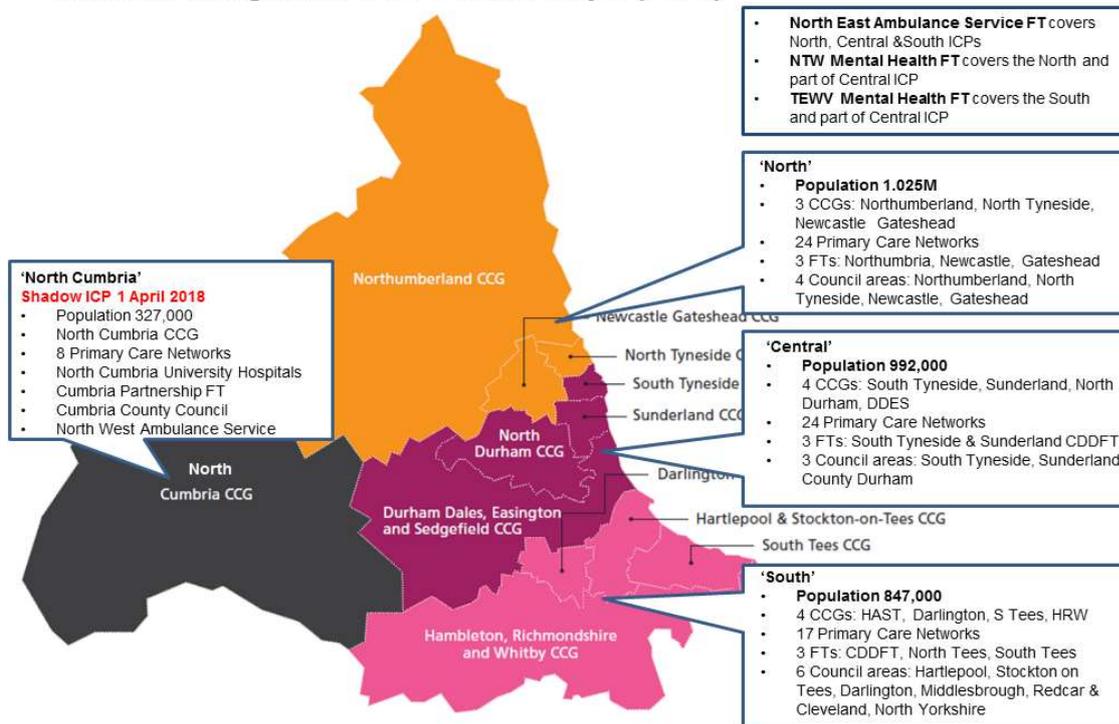
Recommendation(s)

- 18 Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
- (a) Receive and note the contents of this report;
 - (b) Endorse the response to the paper submitted on behalf of the Committee by the Interim Director of Corporate Resources and Chair of the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - (c) Agree to include a further report on Integrated Care Systems to the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme 2021/22

Background

- 19 The AWHOSC has previously received reports on the establishment of Sustainability and Transformation Plans to deliver a new approach in helping ensure that health and care systems are built around the needs of local populations. The North East was covered by two separate STPs. The Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP and the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP
- 20 The two draft STPs were published in November 2016.
- 21 On 19 June 2019, the North East and North Cumbria was confirmed by NHS England as one of a number of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) across the Country. The ICS is a collaboration of NHS commissioners and providers, and our partners, and not a new organisation with statutory powers. The majority of its work is focused in places and neighbourhoods but, alongside this, the ICS provides a mechanism to build consensus on issues that need to be tackled at scale.
- 22 The new ICS and associated Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) have replaced the previously agreed Sustainability and Care Partnerships with a new operating model based around 1 ICS and 4 ICPs as detailed below:-

One North East and North Cumbria ICS with four Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs)



- 23 In November 2020, NHS England and NHS Improvement Published a paper entitled “Integrating care - next steps to building strong and effective integrated care systems across England.” The paper set out proposals for legislative reform and opened up a discussion with the NHS and its partners about how ICSs could be embedded in legislation or guidance.
- 24 Building on the NHS's long term plan, the report sets out a renewed ambition for how greater collaboration between partners in health and care systems can be supported in order to help accelerate progress in meeting the most critical health and care challenges.
- 25 It detailed how systems and their constituent organisations would accelerate collaborative ways of working in the future. from April 2021 this would require all parts of the health and care system to work together as integrated care systems involving :-
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- 26 The document also described options for giving ICSs a firmer footing in legislation which was likely to take effect from April 2022. These proposals sit alongside other recommendations aimed at reducing legislative barriers to integration across health bodies and with social care, to help deliver better care and outcomes for patients through collaboration and to join up national leadership more formally.
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31 A copy of the response together with that from the North East and North Cumbria ICS lead office is attached at appendices 3 and 4.

Background papers

- None.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None

Finance

None

Consultation

This report sets out the NHS England and NHS Improvement proposals for the future of Integrated Care Systems in England and also a response to the consultation on behalf of the Committee.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Human Rights

None

Climate Change

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Staffing

None

Accommodation

None

Risk

None.

Procurement

None