

## HOPSC/18/19

**Committee** Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny

**Date** 12 June 2019

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### PRIMARY CARE UPDATE

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### Recommendation:

To consider:

- (i) the attached consolidated update report on primary care from commissioners;
  - (ii) the role and impact of primary care as part of wider 'system working' and STP/ICS plans;
  - (iii) next steps for the HOSC and health partners.
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### Background:

The link to and importance of primary care has been acknowledged in relieving pressures on acute care in a number of recent HOSC discussions. Furthermore, this is also being emphasised in the ongoing development of local Sustainability and Transformation Partnership plans and Integrated Care Partnerships Systems.

The HOSC discussed primary care provision with local health commissioners and a GP representative back in October 2018 focussing on:

Structures and differences (including commissioning responsibilities)  
Strategies, Focus and Influences  
Relationships and partnerships  
Staff recruitment and retention, training and resource  
Maintaining consistency of access and service  
Measuring performance and feedback (including patient surveys)

A link to the agenda papers and minutes for that meeting is here:

[10 Oct 2018 HOSC - agenda papers](#)

A specific action arising from the October meeting was for commissioners to return to update the HOSC on their locality plans in April 2019. The timing for the update

has been delayed by the launch of the NHS England Long Term Plan and commissioners needing time to respond to that.

Commissioners have been requested to provide an update as follows:

- (i) to provide HOSC with update on Primary Care locality planning and to appreciate the differences between areas, whether due to differences in local need (health inequalities) and/or differing commissioning priorities.
- (ii) Set out national offer and direction.
- (iii) Outline the themes from the Long Term Plan (LTP) that impact on Primary Care including GP contract reform.
- (iv) Explain any differences in timelines now as a result of the LTP and also indicate where CCGs are operating on different timelines to each other.
- (v) Set out geographical coverage explaining the role of Primary Care Networks underpinning much of the LTP.
- (vi) Outline the direction coming from the local Sustainability and Transformation Partnership.
- (vii) Explain move towards standardised urgent care pathways and what is being done locally.

Information on recruitment has been minimised as HOSC has been looking separately at recruitment issues. However, commissioners have been asked to cover the change in skill mixes and increasing use of other professionals (physios, pharmacists etc)

Further reading:

[Royal College of GPs' vision for the future of general practice.](#) – 21 May 2019

[Kings Fund - Primary Care Networks Explained](#) – 13 March 2019

[Primary Care Networks and the NHS Long Term Plan - the New Player on the Pitch](#)  
– Kings Fund 3 April 2019