

<b>HOSC/19/17</b>
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**Committee** Health Overview and Scrutiny

**Date** 20 March 2017

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**GENERAL UPDATE**

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This report is in two parts – Part 1 provides general local health issues and items of interest. Part 2 relates to variations and changes to services that the HOSC has been notified of, usually relating to primary care.

**Recommendation:** To note the updates in Part 1 and Part 2 below:

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**(i) LOCAL HEALTH NEWS**

Health bodies - Public meetings 2017

A list of forthcoming meeting dates for CCGs, Acute Trusts and Essex Mental Health Services is attached for your information (**Appendix 1**). If members attend any of these meetings can they please feed-back to the HOSC any significant or topical issues that may be of interest to the wider committee membership.

**Local Clinical Commissioning Groups – news**

Web addresses

<http://www.basildonandbrentwoodccg.nhs.uk/news>

<http://castlepointandrochfordccg.nhs.uk/news-a-events>

<http://www.midessexccg.nhs.uk/news-events>

<http://www.neessexccg.nhs.uk/News%20and%20Events/News/Current%20News.html>

<http://www.westessexccg.nhs.uk/news>

## *NHS Southend CCG & NHS Castle Point & Rochford CCG Consultation*

NHS Castle Point and Rochford CCG, in partnership with Southend CCG, is updating its Service Restriction Policy (SRP) and is planning to seek views on a number of changes within the document. A Service Restriction Policy (SRP) sets out the clinical criteria for a large range of medical treatments and procedures. The CCG is reviewing the criteria for four treatments as follows:

*Gynaecomastia* - Gynaecomastia is enlargement of the male breast tissue. At present there is little clinical evidence that having this surgery leads to better mental or physical health. The proposed change is that a patient wishing to have this surgery would need to submit an individual funding request (IFR) to demonstrate an exceptional circumstance.

*Spine injections* - Some patients currently receive steroid injections for back pain. However, latest guidance suggests there is insufficient clinical evidence to support the use of these injections in sub-acute and chronic pain originating from or present within the lower-back. The proposed change is that a patient wishing to have this treatment would need to submit an individual funding request (IFR) to demonstrate an exceptional circumstance.

*Astigmatism and cataract surgery* - Some patients who undergo cataract surgery also have astigmatism. Toric lenses can be inserted (instead of the normal artificial lenses used in cataract surgery) to treat the astigmatism as well as replacing the cloudy natural lens. However there is little long-term clinical evidence of long-term effectiveness for toric lenses, and there are instances of these lenses moving after the operation which have meant that the patients have ended up needing spectacles after all. The proposal is that toric lenses would not be routinely funded.

The CCG has run a three week consultation which ends on 14 March. HOSC members were circulated details about the proposed changes at the start of the consultation period.

### **Care Quality Commission**

*Re: Elm Park, Station Road, Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex CO7 7RT*

The CQC will be conducting an announced comprehensive inspection of this location, during the week of 28 March 2017. The location is a 17 bed acquired brain injury /mental health hospital, with patients likely placed from other areas other than Essex.

*Re: Cambian Fairview Hospital, Boxted Road, Colchester, CO4 5HF*

The CQC will be conducting an announced comprehensive inspection of this location, during the week of 20 February 2017 (on site 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of February). The location is a 60 bed+ learning disability /mental health hospital, with some patients likely to be placed from other areas than Essex.

## **(ii) SERVICE CHANGES AND VARIATIONS (including consultations)**

### **Primary care**

#### *Decommissioning of additional pharmacy hours*

NHS England's Direct Commissioning Oversight Group (DCOG) has agreed in principle to decommission a historical arrangement which currently exists across seven pharmacies in West Essex and one in Mid Essex to provide additional pharmacy hours.

Notice will be served on all contractors currently providing Pharmacy Rota Services in West Essex with the exception of those where hours are not covered by alternative providers in the immediate vicinity (2.5 miles), namely in the area of Great Dunmow, Saffron Walden and Mid Essex.

The following hours to be decommissioned are:

- Theydon Bois Pharmacy, Theydon Bois – 17.30 – 18.30 Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday:
- North Weald Chemist, North Weald – 17.30 – 18.30 Mon to Frid and 11:00 – 13.00 Sun
- Dees Pharmacy, Roydon – 18.00 – 19.00 Mon to Frid

The following hours will continue to be commissioned:

- Yogi Pharmacy, Great Dunmow – 18.00 – 19.00 Mon to Frid
- Ropers Chemist, Great Dunmow – 11.00 – 12.00 Sun
- Well Pharmacy and Boots, Saffron Walden – 17.30 – 18.30 Mon to Frid (both provide cover on alternative weeks)
- Govani Chemist, South Woodham Ferrers – 10.00 – 12.00 Sun

There are currently three 100 hour pharmacies in West Essex.

When commissioning future pharmacy services the CCG will be looking to support the 6 hubs across the West Essex CCG footprint who continue to provide extended access between 8am-8pm on Saturdays and Sundays and between 6pm and 10pm weekdays.

#### *New premises for St Lawrence Medical Practice, Braintree*

The St Lawrence Medical Practice, currently located in the town centre at 4 Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9AA will be moving to its new purpose-built premises on the campus of The College at Braintree from Monday 20 March 2017.

The practice, which will be renamed Church Lane Surgery once the new premises are open, will provide a range of GP medical services to the local community in a

modern, fit-for-purpose building. Services will continue to be delivered by Virgin Care Services Limited, which was awarded a ten-year APMS (Alternative Provider Medical Services) contract from June 2016.

The College at Braintree campus is located on Church Lane, Braintree, CM7 5SN which is less than one mile from the Practice's current location. The size and location of the new fit-for-purpose building means that there is car parking available for patients and the new building is big enough to allow for the projected population growth of patients to Braintree.

*New Referral Management Service across the East for the management of dental referrals*

NHS England (East) has awarded the contract for the management of dental referrals across the Eastern region to FDS. The new contract will commence on 1 April 2017 and is awarded for an initial period of three years. The new provider will replace existing smaller referral management services to ensure that a consistent approach to the management of referrals. FDS will be responsible for processing all referrals in respect of oral surgery and utilising local clinicians where appropriate.