

Suggested HASC Urgent Care Working Group Scope of Work

Background papers

- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Response to HASC urgent care questions (Nov 2013).
- Transforming urgent and emergency care services in England: Urgent and emergency care review end of phase 1 report (NHS England, Nov 2013):
<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/keogh-review/Documents/UECR.Ph1Report.FV.pdf>
- Emergency admissions to hospital: managing the demand (National Audit Office, Oct 2013):
<http://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/10288-001-Emergency-admissions.pdf> .
- HASC service configuration topic paper.

Scope and Aims

The urgent care pathway design used by Buckinghamshire residents up to the point at which they either receive the advice or treatment required outside of hospital or are admitted as an inpatient. The quality of services will be considered only in so far as this is undermined by the pathway design, and it is not within the scope of this inquiry to assess the quality of every service comprising the pathway (e.g. GP out of hours, 111, A&E, MIIU etc).

By considering up to date evidence published and additional explanations provided by local healthcare commissioners, the working group will aim to arrive at a consensus upon the following:

- The acceptability of the current urgent care pathway design in the county, and its likely future direction in view of the recent NHS England report on transforming urgent and emergency care services.
- Improvements required to the urgent care pathway.
- Improvements required to how the public are informed about the urgent care services available, and the rationale underpinning the design of the local pathway.

Method

The working group will meet on the 28th January in public to discuss the background papers and question local healthcare commissioners. Questions will be invited from the public in advance of the meeting, for the committee members to put to the NHS representatives.