



Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee agenda supplement

Date: Thursday 30 September 2021

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: The Oculus, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury
HP19 8FF

Agenda Item	Time	Page No
10 Scoping document for Inquiry into Primary Care Networks The Committee will discuss the draft scoping document on a proposed inquiry into the development of Primary Care Networks in Buckinghamshire. Contributors: Committee Members Paper: Draft scoping document attached	12:40	3 - 6

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Liz Wheaton on 01296 383856, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

This page is intentionally left blank

Inquiry Proposal Checklist

Title	A review of Primary Care Networks across Buckinghamshire
Select Committee Chairman	Cllr Jane MacBean, Chairman, Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee
Scope reviewed and signed-off by	Kelly Sutherland, Scrutiny Manager
Author	Liz Wheaton, Principal Scrutiny Officer
Date	September 2021
What is the problem that is trying to be solved?	<p><i>National context</i></p> <p>In July 2019, as part of the NHS Long-Term Plan (LTP), around 7,000 general practices across England came together to form more than 1,200 Primary Care Networks (PCNs).</p> <p>The regulations around PCNs have been incorporated into the contract that each GP practice has with the NHS. According to the NHS website, the creation of PCNs builds on the core of current primary care services and enables a greater provision of proactive, personalised and more integrated health and social care.</p> <p>To support PCNs, the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) provides funding for 20,000 additional roles to create bespoke multi-disciplinary teams, including pharmacists, physiotherapists, paramedics, physician associates and social prescribing support workers.</p> <p>Up to a third of appointments do not need to be with a family doctor and the new recruits will free up GPs to spend more time with patients who need them most, offering longer appointments to those who need them.</p> <p>The initiative comes alongside efforts to recruit more GPs as part of the LTP.</p> <p>Since 2018, NHS organisations, local councils and other partners have increasingly been working together as Integrated Care Systems (ICSs). PCNs play a key role in shaping and delivering place-based primary care services for the local population.</p> <p>Every GP practice should have a Patient Participation Group (PPG) and the LTP states that PCNs will work with their PPGs and local communities in making plans, identifying priorities and seeking feedback on how services are delivered.</p> <p><i>Impact of Covid-19</i></p> <p>The pandemic saw rapid changes in primary care services necessary to ensure patient and staff safety. Patient management and care by GPs continues to be developed and working practices, including digital</p>

advances, are being assessed to ensure more targeted services and stronger focus on those most in need.

Progress in recruiting to the additional roles outlined above has also been impacted by the pandemic and the timescales for recruiting to some of the roles have been revised as a result.

Local context

In Buckinghamshire, there are 13 Primary Care Networks (North Bucks has split into two PCNs, April 2021). The Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee has, over the years, received presentations on Primary Care Networks from key health partners and has reviewed the progress in their development. The PCNs in Buckinghamshire are progressing at different rates, with a few PCNs having successfully recruited to some of the additional roles, as well as developing close working relationships with their PPGs and local communities.

Below is an extract from the presentation given to HASC Members in September 2020 which outlines the progress with recruiting to the additional roles.

PCN Progress Update

PCN	Social Prescriber	Pharmacist	PPG Engagement	OD Events
North Bucks PCN	1	1	✓	✓
Westongrove PCN	1	2		✓
Central BMW PCN	1	1	✓	✓
Central Maple PCN	1	2	✓	✓
AVS PCN	2	1	✓	✓
Chesham & Little Chalfont PCN	0	0		TBC
Mid Chiltern PCN	3 (starting 05/10/20)	0	✓	✓
Cygnets PCN	1	2		✓
Dashwood PCN	1	Recruitment planned / underway	✓	✓
South Bucks PCN	1.5	1	✓	✓
Chalfonts PCN	1 (will cease Oct 20 with no plans to continue)	1		✓
Arc Bucks PCN	1	Recruitment planned / underway	✓	✓

Additional Roles Reimbursement:
In 2020/21 PCNs have the opportunity to recruit to 10 eligible roles:

- Clinical Pharmacists
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Social Prescribing Link Workers
- Health & Wellbeing Coaches
- Care Co-ordinators
- Physician Associates
- First Contact Physiotherapists
- Dieticians
- Podiatrists
- Occupational Therapists

PCNs have submitted workforce plans on 31 August 2020 outlining their recruitment intentions for the above eligible roles for 2020/21.

Your community, Your care : Developing Buckinghamshire together 12

(September 2020)

Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care System (BOB ICS)

Buckinghamshire is part of a footprint with Oxfordshire and Berkshire West. The BOB ICS comprises of 5 local authorities, 3 clinical commissioning groups and 5 NHS Trusts.

	<p>There are current proposals to put ICS's onto a statutory legal footing and to merge the 3 clinical commissioning groups. The HASC Select Committee understands that an ICS plan is being developed and will be ready by April 2022.</p> <p>There are 20 PCNs in Oxfordshire and 15 PCNs in Berkshire West.</p>
What might the Inquiry Achieve?	<p>It is proposed to hold evidence gathering sessions between October and December which would conclude with recommendations being developed and reported to Cabinet and other key partners.</p> <p>The in-depth review would look to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An independent review of the progress in developing PCNs across Buckinghamshire; • Explore the current working practices of the PCNs, the gaps in recruiting to the additional roles and the challenges faced by the individual PCNs in developing their networks; • Understand the resources available to PCNs to assist with their development, for example, around patient communications, event organising and links with mental health providers, community and voluntary services; • Collate examples of good practice across the 13 PCNs (and from other authorities) and discuss "what good looks like" for a PCN; • Understand in more detail the vacancies for GPs within each PCN alongside plans for future proofing increased demand on primary care; • Review the current working arrangements of the Patient Participation Groups and how they are working with their GP surgeries and the wider PCN; • Overall aim – to Identify areas to help PCNs in their development and to bring together the collective challenges and barriers facing the PCNs and highlight the role of the PPGs – both instrumental as part of the development of the Integrated Care System.
Is the issue of significance to Buckinghamshire as a whole?	Yes – as outlined above
Is the topic of relevance to the work of Buckinghamshire Council?	<p>Yes</p> <p>As mentioned above, PCNs have a major role to play in working with other health and social care professionals in the strive for greater integration of services.</p> <p>As stated in the LTP, PCNs will work with local communities in making plans, identifying priorities and seeking feedback on how services are delivered. The Council is well placed to help PCNs facilitate links with the community (through the community boards) and the voluntary sector.</p>
Is this topic within the remit of the Select Committee?	Yes – the Select Committee's remit covers all health and social care providers.

<p>What work is underway already on this issue?</p>	<p>The Clinical Commissioning Group has commissioned Healthwatch Bucks to help with developing the Patient Participation Groups.</p> <p>The Health & Wellbeing Board is reviewing access to GPs at its October meeting.</p>
<p>Are there any key changes that might impact on this issue?</p>	<p>None highlighted</p>
<p>What are the key timing considerations?</p>	<p>Two main timings to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Pressures on Primary Care – Covid booster vaccine roll-out (Sept onwards) and Flu vaccine programme. • Developments around Integrated Care Systems, particularly the ICS Plan due in April 2022.
<p>Who are the key stakeholders & decision-makers?</p>	<p>Head of PCN Development and Delivery, Clinical Commissioning Group PCN Accountable Clinical Directors PCN Network Managers GP Practice Managers Buckinghamshire Council's Adult Social Care and Public Health Oxford Health (for access to mental health services) Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (for access to community services) Patient Participation Groups Service users Community Boards Healthwatch Bucks</p>
<p>What are the resource implications in doing this piece of work?</p>	<p>Attendance at evidence gathering meetings – HASC Inquiry Group and Principal Scrutiny Officer and expert witnesses.</p> <p>Meeting preparation, research and report writing – HASC Inquiry Group and Principal Scrutiny Officer.</p> <p>Communications support – possible service user survey (tbc)</p>