



Luson Surgery

Patient Participation Group

Meeting Notes Wed 24th October 2018 – 6.00pm

Attendees:

Glyn Meredith, Michael Clarke, Chas Jacobs, Jenny Roncaglia & Martin Ellacott

Apologies:

None

Somerset CCG Patient Involvement emails

These have been passed on to MC, CJ & JR since April.

Generally these are found to be quite useful, and each member would like to continue to receive them.

CCG Workforce review – April 2018

We reviewed a one page GP Workforce overview produced by Somerset CCG in April 2018, covering changes from Sept 2015 to Dec 2017.

This showed the loss of 40 GP partners (27 FTE) and an increase of 6 Salaried GPs (3 FTE). Overall there was a net loss of 34 FTE GPs over the 2 year period.

With a growth in population of 2.2% over this period this has seen the patient to FTE GP ratio increase from 1635 to 1850.

Over the same period numbers at Luson increased by 8.2% with patient to FTE GP ratio increasing from 1817 to 1966. The current position at 1st Sept 2018 is a ratio of 2023, compared to a national average of 2108.

Once Dr Seddon joins us, our ratio will reduce to 1879, which with the support of the Nurse Practitioners' extra capacity would be more realistic and manageable.

The proportion of GPs over the age of 55 currently stands at 25% for Somerset, 20.8% for Luson and 21.5% nationally.

Growth of patient numbers

A graph representing the rise in patient number was discussed, which indicates an increase of 11.35% since Sept 2015. Factors include new housing in Wellington and a steady flow of patients from Wellington Medical Centre. General population in Somerset has increased by about 2.2%.

The introduction of a new GP in the New Year will help with workload, which has also been helped by the introduction of Prescribing Nurse Practitioners each work day, and changes in working practices which has seen some paperwork burden removed from the GPs.

Planned GP Changes

Dr Barbara Crabtree has now retired as of 1st October, with Dr Rachel Yates taking over as Senior Partner. Despite the national shortage of GPs, we have been fortunate to find a replacement. Dr James Seddon will join us from 1st January. I had hoped to introduce him today, but this was not possible, but I will invite him to the next meeting.

Dr Crabtree had agreed to carry on working as a locum for us until her replacement was available, but this is now uncertain following the unexpected passing of her husband Dr Roger Crabtree. Roger was Senior Partner at Bishops Lydeard Practice until his retirement 10 years ago, and passed away 2 weeks ago.

Dr Seddon will work 2 full days each week, taking over Dr Crabtree's list, and taking on all new registrations to build up his patient list. This means 2 extra sessions of GP time each week, which will help with workload issues. Dr Seddon has been working as a GP in Bristol whilst also working as an A&E doctor in Bristol Royal Infirmary. He is moving to Wellington with his family.

New – Rapid Response Service

New service aimed at helping GPs with patients at home where they would previously have been sent in to hospital for assessment

The service commences on 1st Nov, with a 2 hour response time, so patients can stay in their homes whilst an assessment is made.

Run by a Clinical Supervisor working closely with the GP using a team of HCAs supported by District Nurses.

The team will use a 3 day period to make assessments and coordinate any support required. If at the end of this period the patient has deteriorated then a re-think on admission may need to be made.

Behind the Headlines

'GPs to offer shared appointment to help workload' – Daily Mail

This relates to group sessions for up to 15 patients with the same condition, such as raised BP. Rheumatoid arthritis, chronic back pain or Asthma.

2 hour sessions on common themes, and would never replace private one to one consultations.

Can be very useful for sharing experiences and learning from others, but wouldn't suit everyone.

'More than 1 in 4 GP weekend appointments left unused' – Daily Telegraph

37% of Sunday appts, 24% of Saturday and 23% of weekday evening appointments are unfilled.

These appts were introduced to improve access for patients from 8.00am to 8.00pm every day. They are provided across Taunton Federation of practices by all practices for all patients. Luson offers appointments on Monday and Thursday evenings.

Has been running for 18 months now, during which time we have seen 1 patient from other surgeries, and we have a usage rate of 72%. This is with us using the appointments as overflow capacity.

Described by BMA as 'costing vast sums and leaving GPs spread too thinly'

BMA GP Committee Chairman - 'Sensible CCGs that want to use their resources in a better way are under pressure to maintain as service which isn't really good value for money.'

'Flu jab protected just 1 in 10 pensioners last year.' – *Daily Telegraph*

Public Health England report has shown only 10.1% effectiveness among over 65s, 12.2% in younger adults and 26.9% among children for 2017-18.

This contributed to the worst flu season for seven years with about twice the average number of deaths from flu in the season.

As a result new vaccines have been introduced for 2018-19 season.

Flu Vaccines 2018-19

Over 65s - Adjuvanted trivalent influenza vaccination (aTIV)

Evidence of limited value to non-adjuvanted egg-based vaccines

(aTIV) Flud[®] is now licensed for 2018

Covers 2 strains of influenza A and one of influenza B

Has been used in Europe since 1997 and in USA since 2015

Adjuvanted vaccines have a very small amount of an aluminium salt which helps it create a stronger immune response.

Under 65s – Quadrivalent influenza vaccination

Covers 2 strains of influenza A & B

Extra influenza A strain only affects younger patients

Fit for My Future

This is a consultation by NHS Somerset, asking what people think of health and care services in Somerset.

They are running a number of drop-in sessions around the county seeking input from the public.

Tuesday 30th Oct – The Arts Centre, Eight Acre Lane, Wellington.

All invited.

Date for next meeting has been set for 27th February 2019 at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

25th Oct 2018
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