

Date: Monday, 10 June 2013

To: Wisbech PRG Groups

Subject: Report on attendances at Wisbech Local Clinical Commissioning Group (LCG) and Cambs Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Events as LCG & CCG Patient Representative.

Purpose: Information.

Since my last report, I have attended two further LCG Board meetings and a CCG – PRG Group meeting. I also attended a Wisbech Priorities meeting later this month.

I have taken back to the Boards and CCG- PRG groups the matters of concern that have been brought to me Patients & PRG Groups who have contacted me and also would like to report "Hot Topics" which have been raised by other PRGs within the Cambridge and Peterborough region whose concerns are I am sure echoed by patients generally.

There are several important matters I wish to bring to the groups notice the update on the future of community services provision and the older peoples Programme attached to this report

As I reported in my earlier report the older has the highest priority in the whole of the NHS at present since the demographic projects that our aging population will absorb higher proportions of the whole NHS Budgets.

The CCG has implemented a review of provision strategy and this is due to be finalised in June.

The strategy calls for close integration of Clinical and social care needs to be provided by the eventual successor to Cambs Community Services and in the interim by the Transitional board as well as the close co-operation of the CCG and Local authorities where these are providers.

I am delighted to report that funding for a pilot scheme has been procured to provide intermediate "Step Up / Down" Bed facilities in Trafford Ward at North Cambs Hospital to avoid admission into the Main Hospitals or to facilitate early discharge from General Hospitals. Care will be supervised by The Community Matron and clinician cover by our own GPs, Recruitment for Care assistants is now being pursued. It is an important part of securing the future of this much needed facility and Wisbech LCG is actively pursuing ways to increase diagnostic and outpatient consultations using its premises.

1. The CCG PRG group has discussed a list of "Hot Topics" which are concerning patients in the CCG area generally. The most prominent of these are:
2. Discharge procedures from General Hospital and inherent delays and bed blocking caused by delayed paperwork and pharmacy, lack of co-ordination and further delays with Community Services Backup and general delay in communication with Patients GP's.

3. Severe concerns about Mental Health provision and the post code lottery of its availability through the region. Especially concerning young people and adolescents.
4. Concern over the recent Publicity concerning the financial position and stability of Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals and similar concerns over Hinchinbrook.
5. District Nurse provision
6. Out of Hours Care.
7. A&E

There were of course many other matters in wide ranging discussions. The Group is also pressing the CCG Board to provide formal feedback on its principal concerns.

Susan Last CCG Director of communications hopes to have the requested promotional material signed off in the very near future, I will keep us posted.

Whilst we have the right to expect the highest standard of professional care from our Health service, we all have a responsibility to reduce the pressure on GP & A&E services where sensible and not to badger our clinicians for inappropriate treatments such as Antibiotics for viral Colds and Flue or minor ailments that can be remedied by over the counter treatments otherwise it will be ourselves and our families that will suffer in the longer term from funding pressure and longer waiting times. There is an excellent leaflet entitled "Choose Well" available to Download from NHS sites or from our GP's Surgeries.

Please feel free to contact me as Groups or individuals if you have a general concern you would like me to take to the Groups I attend. All the surgeries have my contact details.

I regret I cannot undertake matters that concern individual Patient – GP treatment as these are matters for the surgeries themselves.

For the longer Term I would be very interested in helping to start a Wisbech & District Patient Forum which would meet three or four times a year where all of our Practice Patient Groups could interchange Ideas and concerns on the NHS in our area. If anyone is interested in assisting / organising this please contact me.

John Grevatt

Mandated Patient Representative – Wisbech LCG / Cambs & Peterborough CCG – PRG group / Fenland Health and Wellbeing