

LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND'S STP LAUNCHED

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland's (LLR) draft sustainability and transformation plan (STP) - for developing local health and social care services over the next five years – has been published today, Monday 21 November, for further public discussion and feedback.

The population overall in our sub-region, like many parts of the country, is getting older, and as such people often have more long term illnesses that need managing. We also know that some services aren't currently consistently delivering the quality and access of care that we would want for local people.

The draft STP for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland details how those challenges can be tackled in our region and contains the following proposals:

- We are already investing in local services including £45.5 million on a new state of the art emergency department at Leicester Royal Infirmary
- An increase in services delivered in the community by specialised clinical teams;
- Encouraging more people to live healthily and avoid illness;
- Helping to address an LLR projected NHS funding gap of £399 million, and local; caused by a number of factors including an increase in demand for services, and the costs of new treatments
- A movement of hospital beds from the big city hospitals to the community, in hospitals or at home, for those people whom it would benefit
- Plans for reconfiguration of Leicester City Hospitals from three to two acute sites
- The future options for maternity services in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, including the current standalone midwife led unit in Melton Mowbray
- Reconfiguration of community hospitals and their beds and community-based services

Some of these proposals will require capital cost to support improvement to buildings and estates. This programme will cost an estimated £350 million over the next five years, of which £250 million will need to be new external funding.

The plan sets out how services can be changed for the better to improve care and the patient experience, while addressing the problem of demand for services continually outpacing the resources available. In order to deliver these aspirations it means the services we deliver, and where and how we offer them, will need to change. Hospital beds in the big city (acute) hospitals in Leicester will reduce by 243 (12%) from 1,940 to 1,697. Community hospital beds (including stroke and rehab beds) will reduce by 38 (16%) from 233 to 195. Overall in total this means a move from 2,173 beds across Leicester Leicestershire and Rutland (acute and community) to 1,892 or a reduction of 281 beds (13%).

Changes within the plan will be subject to further engagement, building on that has already taken place as part of Better Care Together between now and January. Specific areas within the plan will then be subject to formal public consultation where appropriate during 2017. This means that final decisions on many of the proposals will not be taken until the summer of next year.

“Over the last two years we’ve been focused on developing our services hand-in-hand with clinicians, patient representatives and our partners in local government as part of our Better Care Together partnership,” said Toby Sanders, who is the STP convenor for the region. “Our STP draws upon and builds upon that work, and we will be sharing and discussing the detail widely with people across our community to further inform and develop the plans over the coming weeks and months.”

The STP is being published as a working draft and we would encourage people to give their feedback on the proposals. If people have questions or initial thoughts they can respond to on our website www.bettercareleicester.nhs.uk or they can write to us with their feedback directly to LLR STP, Renaissance House, 20 Princess Road West, Leicester LE1 6TP.”

Ends

Notes to editors

- Patients, carers, the wider public and others in the local community are being invited to get involved in the further development of the finalised STP in coming months. People can give their feedback on the plans by visiting www.bettercareleicester.nhs.uk or by writing directly to LLR STP, Renaissance House, 20 Princes Road West, Leicester, LE16TP, or by attending local engagement opportunities across the region.
- Better care together is a partnership between health and social care organisations across LLR. It was launched in 2014 ultimately to improve access to services and patient’s experiences of care across the region, at the same time increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of care. The initiative is a precursor to the sustainability and transformation plans and a substantial part of the STP for LLR includes this work.
- Sustainability and transformation plans are five-year plans covering all areas of NHS spending in England. A total of 44 areas have been identified as the [geographical ‘footprints’ on which the plans will be based](#), with an average population size of 1.2 million people (the smallest area covers a population size of 300,000 and the largest 2.8 million).
- The total population of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland is 1,061,800.
- The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland system will spend £2.121 billion on health and social care in 2016/17