

## Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Sustainability and Transformation Partnership

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### News



#### **Update on the proposal to merge Bedford Hospital and Luton and Dunstable University Hospital**

The joint Integration Board, consisting of executive representatives from both Trusts, continues to meet to discuss plans to merge Bedford Hospital and Luton and Dunstable University Hospital. This month the Trust Boards also met and had an opportunity to consider the forward timeline and priorities for the coming months.

The Board welcomed the update on positive progress that has been made over recent months. Work has been ongoing to update and finalise capital bids for estates redevelopment - a 'hot block' at the L&D and upgraded A&E at Bedford. These bids are being channelled through the BLMK STP and will be submitted to NHSE (along with other transformation bids across the country) to be considered over the summer.

#### **Information sharing – creating a common platform**

The ability of the Trusts to work more effectively together is reliant on having joined up IT systems. Bedford Hospital was awarded 'Fast Follower' status this year, partnering with the L&D who are part of the NHS England Global Digital Exemplar (GDE) programme. This recognises Trusts who are digitally advanced and provides national funding to support digital improvement and transformation.

Having now received £15m in funding (£10m for L&D; £5m for Bedford) the Trusts are starting to implement some improvement initiatives. This will include the introduction of a new IT system for emergency care at Bedford Hospital which will mirror that in place at the L&D (Symphony). The system is expected to be up and running in A&E and the new Urgent Treatment Centre at Bedford hospital by November and will provide clinicians with a complete and more informed picture of their patient to help staff provide more timely and improved quality care. It will also support improved performance at Bedford Hospital for example getting discharge letters out in a timelier manner. Other planned improvements include the introduction of electronic notes across Bedford Hospital - which is largely still paper-based - and remote patient consultations.

To support this partnership working, a joint IM&T team is being established at Cranfield. The team will have shared access and work across both sites, looking at how they can use technology to share best practice, inform clinical working and reduce duplication or convergence. The team will also support work in progress across BLMK STP to create a shared health and care record.

### **Clinical engagement**

The Trust's clinical leaders continue to explore ways of working more collaboratively and have identified specialty areas to adopt a trial approach to integrated working. They will initially focus on Trauma and Orthopaedics (T&O) with other services to follow.

This initiative will look at the current model of service provision for each specialty at each Trust and will involve clinicians from both sites working together to design an integrated model.

### **Leadership**

Following her substantive appointment to the Board as L&D Chief Nurse, Liz Lees has now taken up a joint role working across Bedford Hospital and the L&D whilst the Trusts continue to make preparations for the merger. Liz has vast experience in both operational and clinical roles and was involved in the reconfiguration of the Lister and the QEII emergency pathways.

Liz has been the Interim Director of Nursing at Bedford Hospital since April 2018 and will provide strong leadership across both sites in this role.

### **Next steps**

An announcement on the next round of national funding is now expected in the Autumn Budget. Subject to funding being available to support the merger proposal, the Trusts will submit a revised Full Business Case later this year and are confident in their plans to merge and create a single NHS Foundation Trust for Bedfordshire no later than 1 April 2019.

The partnership approach that has been established between Bedford and L&D Hospital continues and real progress has been made regarding future ways of working together to provide the best possible services for the people of Bedfordshire and surrounding areas.

Once the capital bids have been approved, a joint Executive team will be set up to continue to oversee and guide merger preparations. We will keep you updated as work progresses and appreciate your ongoing support. If you have any questions you can email [merger@ldh.nhs.uk](mailto:merger@ldh.nhs.uk).

### ***A £1 million pounds for local perinatal service***

An NHS England pledge of £1 million will ensure that hundreds of thousands of women will have access specialist perinatal mental health community services in Luton, Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes .

In 2014 it was estimated that only three per cent of the country had good access to perinatal mental health care. Currently women who experience severe mental health difficulties during and after pregnancy are treated in mother and baby units, however in areas with limited provision new mothers can be separated from their baby whilst being treated in adult inpatient units.

Justine Cawley, Modern Matron Perinatal Services said: “Pregnancy and the postnatal period are a unique time in a woman’s life; the new services allows women to be treated in an environment that is familiar, closer to loved ones and where both their needs and the needs of the baby are met. Mothers and their infants can develop their unique bond, whilst women can get the specialist psychological help they need to recover.”

The new services will create dedicated specialist teams across Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes to boost existing services and ensure better access to all women across BLMK by reducing waiting times and more specialist support to a larger group of women. Further work is taking place over the summer months to work collaboratively with partners in Primary Care to ensure the new services will support earlier diagnosis and preventative interventions. The new team will also work to increase awareness and transparency of services across BLMK.

The teams will offer a range of psychiatric and psychological assessments for complex or severe mental health problems during the perinatal period. As well as pre-conception advice for women with a current or past severe mental illness who are planning a pregnancy.

BLMK have a history of committing to co-production and involving people with lived experience shaping the future and delivery of services. For perinatal mental health there has been a collaborative of professionals and women with lived experience working together for the past two years. The women who have participated in this work have been brave in sharing their experience of care and helping to set priorities for improvement. This had led to:

- Co-produced care pathways
- Influenced the content of multiagency champions training
- Establishment of peer support groups on social media

- Learning events for GPs
- Improved pre-conception counselling to women with pre-existing mental health problems.
- Capacity to deal with crises and emergencies, and assess patients in a variety of settings.

### ***Two new faces for BLMK***

BLMK has two new faces to help transform mental health and diabetes across the region.

### ***Michael Farrington – Mental Health Improvement Manager***



Michael Farrington has joined BLMK from ELFT on a one-year secondment as mental health improvement manager. His STP secondment will be to support the delivery of the mental health delivery plan, with a focus on developing mental health services within primary care.

“My work will cover everything from supporting increased access to IAPT services and reducing out of area admissions to improving the dementia diagnosis rate and improving access for children and young people receiving treatment,” said Michael.

“Some developments might be implemented locally and others could be across the entire STP footprint.”

He added: “This is an exciting opportunity to develop how mental health care is provided across Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes.”

**Tom May – Diabetes Quality Improvement Manager**



Tom May has joined BLMK STP from Milton Keynes CCG on a one-year secondment as a Diabetes Quality Improvement Manager. In his STP secondment he will be adding capacity to support improvements in delivery of diabetes services.

“This is a fantastic opportunity to make a difference by improving services for patients living with diabetes and those at risk of developing the condition. I’ll be looking at models of good practice within BLMK and further afield to see what can be used locally to improve patient experience and outcomes. I’ll also be exploring how by implementing initiatives at scale e.g. staff training how economies of scale can be achieved”

**Engagement**



***Clinical Conversation – PREVENTION - Save the Date – 17 July***

Following on from our successful last clinical conversation we are pleased to announce the details of our next clinical conversation - a focus on prevention. The evening will be chaired by Carole Mills, CEO Milton Keynes Council and feature a key note speech from Dr William Bird, GP in Berkshire and CEO and Founder of Intelligent Health, who’s vision is to make a lasting difference to people’s health and wellbeing by supporting them to become more active.

At this event you will be able to discuss the health behaviours that prevent ill health and disease, recognising the importance of mental wellbeing and promoting interventions such as social prescribing that address the non-clinical issues that are often underlie clinical presentations. The event will conclude with a dynamic one hour training session to colleagues on brief intervention skills and mental health awareness, culminating in the opportunity for attendees to make a pledge to embed an element of prevention in their daily practice.

**Details of the event are below:**

**When: Tuesday 17 July 2018**

**Time: from 6pm to 9pm**

**Where: Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH**

**Spaces are available to staff of the 15 BLMK partners and associated voluntary organisations. To book your place email [communications@mkuh.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@mkuh.nhs.uk)**

Food and refreshments will be provided at the event. Places will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. A full agenda will follow in the coming weeks.

### ***Foundations of Quality Improvement Workshop***



## **Foundations of Quality Improvement Workshop**

**The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH**

**11 September 2018**

Working in partnership Eastern AHSN and the East of England Leadership Academy, Health Education England are delivering a one day 'Foundations of Quality Improvement Workshop' at The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH on 11 September 2018. It is a one-day workshop running 9.30am-16.00pm.

This workshop is open to all health and social care clinical and managerial staff who are mid-level leaders and ideally 2 or 3 from the same team who are working together on a quality improvement initiative to apply their learning\*\*.

The workshop will explain the science behind QI theory and will help you to develop your practical skills. Topics covered on the day include:

Course content:

- The current health care context
- Improvement methodologies
- The Model for Improvement
- How to run PDSA testing cycles
- Tools, techniques and driver diagrams
- Measurement for improvement

Register online to book your fully funded, but limited place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/foundations-of-quality-improvement-bedford-luton-milton-keynes-tickets-47705142365>

\*\*Please note that this workshop is for staff working within the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care System only.



### ***Mental health in Primary Care Home model***



On 22 May 2018 the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes (BLMK) Sustainability and Transformation Plan held an event to discuss 'Mental Health in the Primary Care Home' at the Rufus Centre, Flitwick. The event was attended by approximately 50 people from primary care, secondary mental health care, social care and patient participation groups.

Attendees received presentations from Johnny Marshall (Regional Primary Care Home Lead - National Association of Primary Care) and Chris Naylor (Senior Fellow - Kings Fund) to provide an overview of the evidence base for the primary care home as a model of care and evidence of emerging models of mental health within primary care settings. A 'fishbowl' discussion amongst experts considered questions regarding the extent to which the primary care home model offers a solution to the challenge of rising demand in both primary care and mental health secondary care; the value of the primary care home model in comparison to other models of mental health in primary care, lessons to be learnt from Tower Hamlets' experience of developing a Primary Care Mental Health Service, the evolving roles of the workforce within these new models of care, and the organisational conditions that need to be in place for these new models to succeed.

Participants were then organised into locality based tables (i.e. Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes) and each locality was asked to consider:

1. What is our platform to build on?
2. What should the future look like?
3. How do we start this work?

The following were key themes from the discussion:

- There are positive examples of joint working across all localities which provide templates for future innovation.
- Staff are motivated to improve service delivery and keen to implement more holistic, integrated models of care that leverage community assets.
- Building multi-disciplinary capacity in primary care settings presents an opportunity to reallocate resource from community mental health teams by reducing outpatient caseloads. Investment and staff 'headspace' are essential to ensure successful transformation.
- More multi-disciplinary working, with the service user as an active participant in their care, will provide a better quality service and improve both patient and staff experience.
- Service models should work with families as a unit to improve preventative care for children and young people.
- The primary care home model and primary care mental health services can offer some mitigation to workforce issues of anxiety and burnout.
- The STP has a crucial role to play in developing enabling infrastructure, including integrated IT systems, co-located workspaces, and workforce capacity within the system to develop new models of care