

## Report from Dr Elizabeth Johnston, Chair of South Reading CCG to the Health and Well Being Board Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013

### 1. Introduction

Along with the other 3 CCGs in Berkshire West, we assumed its statutory responsibilities for commissioning of local services in South Reading from April 2013. We cover a population of 125,000 patients.

### 2. Board Meetings in Public

We will hold Board meetings in public every quarter and have had two to date. At the end of each meeting we have an open question and answer session which has already generated some relevant and interesting questions.

### 3. Launch of NHS 111

We fully support N & W Reading in leading on the successful launch of NHS 111 and we eagerly await the impact this will have on local A &E as well as out of hours services after the NHS direct number is formally “switched off”.

### 4. Focus on Children and families

South Reading has the highest number of children and young people in its area and we are concentrating our efforts on helping the Health & Wellbeing board achieve goal 2 of the strategy. We have recently linked in with the Early Years team at Reading Borough Council and initial findings have shown a strong potential for mutually beneficial joint working to help achieve the desired goals and outcomes children and families. A report will be presented at the next HWBB in September. In addition, goal 1 is supported by our work to increase the number of childhood immunisations which is well underway with health visitors helping us to target the very hard to reach families.

**Berkshire Children’s Workshop** , led by Wokingham CCG and to be held on **27<sup>th</sup> June** to discuss future arrangements for children commissioning and how all the sectors can work together to improve children services in Berkshire. Invitees include health, social care and the voluntary sector.

**Reading Children & Voluntary Youth Service** . An AGM is being held this month and I will be attending to ensure the voluntary sector is fully engaged and aware of the work within the CCG and at Health & Wellbeing level; as well as exploring opportunities for joint working and gaining a better understanding of our partner organisations. .

## **5. Breastfeeding**

A multidisciplinary working group has been set up to promote and implement various breastfeeding promotional schemes. This group met on 12<sup>th</sup> June and have a number of actions to ensure wider understanding of services available, communicating more widely e.g. through TIPS event , identifying gaps (Whitley has no drop in service from RBFT) and will also be leading on providing information to the public during national breastfeeding week in August 2013.

## **6. Health Screening**

Bowel Screening- Our practices are working to increase the uptake of bowel screening by sending out personal reminder letters to patients who fail to respond to 1<sup>st</sup> screening invite. HIV- A working group is currently reviewing with public health colleagues, the outcomes of the HIV screening pilots that were run in 6 GP practices up to 31<sup>st</sup> March. This will inform us on the optimal way of improving HIV screening going forward. The CCG has recently agreed funding for Gonorrhoea tests to be offered in addition to chlamydia tests for ladies having termination of pregnancy.

## **7. Long term Conditions**

South Reading leads on the Long term Conditions programme of work which compliments and support the attainment of Goal 3 in the Reading Health & Wellbeing Strategy. We are currently implementing 13 projects supporting long term conditions which include, support for carers, care co-ordination, promotion of self-care, as well as specific targeted disease areas such as Diabetes, Epilepsy and Dementia. We are also heavily involved in the Pioneer bid supporting integration and the development of a robust vulnerable “frail” elderly care pathway.

## **8. Dementia and Older Peoples Conference**

In collaboration with our patient voice group “South Reading Patient voice” we held our first and highly successful patient focused conference. We had an excellent turnout of 140 delegates including patients, carers and health professionals for all our key stakeholders as well as strong presence from the voluntary sector. A number of findings from this conference are now being taken forward to inform our future commissioning and service redesign. The overwhelming message from the conference was for a more integrated service to be available for patient and their carers, with easier navigation and access to care. This supports the Pioneer bid being discussed today.

We recently also supported **Carers Week** and our patient and public engagement representative attended both information events on 19<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June at Broad Street Mall and the Civic Centre.

## 9. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

South Reading CCG currently have a trainee GP working with them until end of July. She is taking forward a project which aims to review different commissioning models of care for chronic fatigue patients. We have ring fenced £115k within this year's budget across the Berkshire West CCGs.

## 10. CCG Prospectus

The CCG is currently finalizing its Prospectus for 2013/14.

## 11. CCG Website:

The CCG website is now up and running at [www.southreadingccg.nhs.uk](http://www.southreadingccg.nhs.uk).

Follow us on twitter: @SReadingCCG

And through my fortnightly blog <http://www.insidecommissioning.co.uk/dr-elizabeth-johnston>

**Dr Elizabeth Johnston, Chair South reading CCG**