

WHYBURN MEDICAL PRACTICE

Briefing for the County Health Scrutiny Committee – October 2019

Background

In February 2019, representatives of the CCG attended the Committee to provide an update on Whyburn Medical Practice and the steps being taken to identify a new provider for the practice's patients.

The procurement exercise to identify a caretaker provider on an initial contract for 12 months with an option to extend the contract for a further 12 months was successful. Following a robust procurement process, Primary Care Integrated Services (PICS) were chosen as the new provider of Whyburn Medical Practice. The contract with PICS commenced on the 1st June 2019 and there was a smooth transition with minimal disruption to patient care.

PICS is owned and managed by Nottinghamshire GPs and are based in Nottingham. All the work they do is for the local NHS by delivering healthcare services for local people. PICS deliver a number of other primary care services in Nottinghamshire.

The majority of the staff employed at Whyburn Medical Practice transferred across to PICS on NHS terms and conditions. Dr Adam Connor is the new GP lead for the Whyburn Medical Practice. Three of the GP partners who handed back the contract for Whyburn Medical Practice have continued to work at the practice.

Progress

A number of improvements have been made at the practice since the 1st June, this includes running a number of drop in clinics to improve patient access and employing a clinical pharmacist. PICS have engaged with patients through the Patient Participation Group and patient feedback has been generally very positive.

Byron Primary Care Network (PCN) was established on the 1st July 2019 and Dr Adam Connor was appointed Clinical Director for the PCN. The PCN brings the four GP practices in Hucknall together with other stakeholders to improve the integration and delivery of services to patients. The PCN have recently appointed a clinical pharmacist to increase capacity in the primary care workforce and improve the quality and safety of prescribing.

Next Steps

Whyburn Medical Practice and Byron Primary Care Network will continue to work together to deliver high quality, sustainable primary care services to the population of Hucknall.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is likely to carry out an inspection of Whyburn Medical Practice within the next 3 months. The CQC aim to inspect any provider within 6 months of a significant contract change.

An outline business case for a new health centre in Hucknall will be developed with a view to providing sufficient capacity for the increasing population and an improved primary care estate. An options appraisal of potential sites for the new health centre is underway.

The CCG will decide whether to extend the contract for 12 months and initiate a procurement exercise for a longer term contract. The procurement exercise will include public consultation.