

EKSB Board Update – October 2016

About the East Kent Strategy Board

The East Kent Strategy Board was established in September 2015 by local health and social care commissioners to spearhead a new drive to determine how best to provide health and social care services to the population of east Kent. The Board's ambition is to design a new way of delivering services in east Kent that will meet the future health needs of the population in the most appropriate way; improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of services; meet challenges around the availability of a scarce skilled workforce by delivering care in new ways; and do so in a way that is affordable and sustainable for the long-term.

Comprising all organisations involved in the planning, provision and delivery of health and care services in this area, the Board is an advisory board with a clinical chair. Its membership includes the chief executives and most senior clinicians and leaders of east Kent's NHS, public health and social care services. The Board oversees a work programme and advises local health and care commissioners whose role it is to plan the future pattern of services across east Kent.

The East Kent Strategy Board last met on Thursday 13 October 2016. This briefing is an overview of the core content discussed at the October meeting, the Board's decisions and work to date.

Key programme highlights from September

- An evaluation criteria development workshop took place at the beginning of September.
- Members of the Board including Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) clinical chairs met with east Kent MPs in Westminster to discuss the case for change, which was launched in August 2016.
- The Programme Director and CCG clinical chairs met with the Clinical Senate to discuss the potential scale of and scope of the consultation process.
- The first local care (out of hospital) modelling workshop took place with representation from all member organisations of the East Kent Strategy Board. It was decided this would be aligned and taken forward at a Kent and Medway level as part of the coherent development of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan for the area.

Programme timeline

The Board discussed recent feedback from NHS England following the first stage of their assurance process and progress in developing the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). The East Kent Strategy Board's work is closely aligned to work in neighbouring areas and is a part of the Kent & Medway STP.

The East Kent Strategy Board agreed that with the depth of modelling and other workforce, activity and financial analysis still to be done, together with the agreement at STP level that one approach to designing a model of local (out of hospital) care across Kent and Medway would be taken, the programme timeline will change. Undertaking the detailed work to design a system-wide model of care for east Kent and to develop options for service delivery from this, together with time allocated



The East Kent Strategy Board member organisations include:

NHS South Kent Coast CCG; NHS Canterbury and Coastal CCG; NHS Ashford CCG; NHS Thanet CCG; East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust; Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust; Kent & Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust; South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust; and Kent County Council.

to go through necessary assurance processes, means that a formal public consultation on any proposed service changes is now anticipated to begin in the summer of 2017. In addition, the Board noted that as local elections take place in May 2017, the 'purdah' process that allows for political campaigning in the run up to these elections will also impact on the timetable and it will not be possible to commence a formal public consultation until June 2017 at the earliest.

The Board recognised that there is still much work to do to get to this point of readiness and agreed the pace and urgency for transforming the way that health and social care services are delivered across east Kent has not changed.

Focus group research

The Board received a presentation on the output of a series of focus groups which took place at six locations across east Kent during August 2016. The groups were commissioned as part of the communications, engagement and involvement programme supporting the EKSB and were carried out by research company, Curved Thinking. Participants were recruited as a representative sample of the east Kent population according to age, gender, ethnicity, social group etc. A full report was presented to the Board outlining the key themes and issues discussed by the focus groups. It was agreed that these findings should inform the programme's work as new models of care and potential service options are designed and developed, as well as providing helpful insights on communicating change.

Finance stocktake

The Board received a presentation from the Finance workstream outlining the finance stocktake that has been in development following earlier modelling work completed by GE Finnamore to inform the programme. The exercise has enabled the workstream to gain an in-depth understanding of the activity delivered at a variety of different sites and to understand the scale of change that will be needed to help bring the east Kent system back into financial balance.

The Board also received updates from the IT, Estates and Communications and Engagement workstreams. The Chair of the Patient and Public Engagement Group (currently the Canterbury and Coastal CCG lay member) attended the Board meeting as a full member.

For more information about the work of the East Kent Strategy Board visit: <http://eastkent.nhs.uk/>

