

**HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD PROCEDURAL MATTERS  
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**Public Questions**

**Question (1) from Mr Mick Moriarty:**

Surrey Heartlands STP has announced that their plans for devolution are well developed and that they are hoping for national approval in May 2017. Has the Board seen the specific plans that have been forwarded for approval and, if so does the board know when the plans will be shared with the public?

**Reply:**

The Health and Wellbeing Board was informed of the Surrey Heartlands devolution plans at its meeting on the 8th December as part of a general update on progress of the Surrey Heartlands STP.

We understand that there will be a public announcement after the General Election in June once the Memorandum of Understanding – which outlines the devolution proposal – has been signed. At this stage, it is expected to be very high level and although this will be fully in the public domain, it is unlikely that there will be sufficiently detailed plans to share with the public. Devolution will be the mechanism by which Surrey Heartlands hopes to achieve its plans to improve health and care rather than representing the plans themselves.

**Question (2) from Mr Mick Moriarty:**

You may be aware that the STP submitted in October 2016 committed to £115 - £125 million of efficiencies by 2020 / 2021, what arrangements and timetable have the Health and Wellbeing Board put in place to ensure that the Surrey Heartlands STP to ensure that local health & social care services are not adversely affected by any “efficiencies”.

**Reply:**

The Board fully understands and signs up to the principle that in order for health and social care to remain sustainable into the future changes will have to be made and this will need to include certain levels of savings. However, the STP is also about transforming services and the Health and Wellbeing Board’s role is to ensure that any service transformation still meets the wider health and wellbeing strategy for Surrey. The Board welcome this as an opportunity to transform and improve services to make sure that local people continue to receive high quality services in the future. The Board is also aware that the STP is working in collaboration with stakeholders, staff, patients, and local residents to make sure local people are fully engaged in this programme of change.

**Question (3) from Mr Mick Moriarty:**

Does the board really believe that this can be achieved without damaging local health & social care services?

**Reply:**

The tide of rising demand represents the primary threat to the long term sustainability of both health and social care services. This is not unique to Surrey but is a challenge replicated

across the country. The question that must be answered is what measures can be taken to manage this rising demand without compromising the sustainability of either the healthcare system or the social care system in the long term. It is widely recognised that having an integrated health and social care system would contribute significantly to managing the increased demand generated by a population that is getting older and has increasingly complex needs. The integration of health and social care services will enable a more effective pooling of resources across the combined system targeting these towards areas of greatest need, it will reduce instances of duplication in service provision, create greater economies of scale and, crucially, decrease both the volume and length of non-elective hospital admissions particularly among older adults. Sustainability and Transformation Plans are the realisation of the Government's aspiration to drive ever closer integration between health and social care services and to embed a one system approach. Health and Wellbeing Boards were established in 2012 as vehicle through which to deliver health and social care integration within specific local authority areas and, as such, we welcome the introduction of STPs as a means of achieving this and feel that a closer union will lead to substantial benefits for patients. The Board recognises that the nature of STPs will necessitate some realignment of services in Surrey but is unequivocal in its belief that these will be done in the interests of creating an integrated health and social care system which provides better services and outcomes for Surrey residents while also delivering financial sustainability within the system.

**Question (4) from Mr Mick Moriarty:**

As a local resident who lives and works in the Surrey Heartland STP area I am concerned that these plans are being attempted at a pace and with a lack of money that will render them at best unachievable, and at worst deeply damaging to local services. Are the plans written as a way to improve the quality of care or is the need to balance the books the main motivation?

**Reply:**

The plans are seeking to do three things; to improve the health and wellbeing of our population – through, for example better prevention; to improve the quality of care being delivered in Surrey Heartlands and; to ensure that health and social care can be delivered in a financially sustainable way. It is not a case of either/or – all three goals are fundamental to the long term health of our population.

The overall vision is to improve local services by working in partnership both between partner organisations across the Surrey Heartlands area and with local residents, patients and other stakeholders. Within the wider plans are a number of clinical workstreams, each with a Clinical lead, who will be working with relevant staff, patients and residents on developing plans that are fit for purpose and that will ensure quality of care is both maintained and improved and at the same time, as outlined above, that these services can be delivered in a financially sustainable way. The Clinical Academy workstream in particular will be looking to reduce unwarranted clinical variation across the area to make sure that local residents, wherever they live within the Surrey Heartlands area, receive the same high levels of care. Currently the plans are still at a relatively early stage with much opportunity for wider involvement from staff, patients and residents. Furthermore, any significant service change will be subject to the legal requirement for formal public consultation and engagement with the general public. Health and Wellbeing Board members as well as local councillors will play an active role in this process.

**Mrs Helyn Clack  
Co-Chairman, Surrey Health and  
Wellbeing Board**

**Dr Claire Fuller  
Co-Chairman, Surrey Health and  
Wellbeing Board,**

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