

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CCG PATIENT CONGRESS

Summary of meeting on Tuesday 19th August 2014

6.00 – 8.00 pm

The Day Case Room, Cheadle Hospital / Cheadle

Key Points Discussed

New Patient Congress Members

New patient congress members appointed in July 2014: Anthea Bourne, Carole Edwards, Andrea Hampton, Carole Stone, Grant Williams and Bas Pickering (appointed for a further term) were welcomed and took part in their first congress.

Update on the proposal to decommission Hearing Aids for mild to moderate hearing loss

It was confirmed that an extensive engagement process has taken place throughout July and August 2014 and a summary of engagement will be produced in September 2014. The CGG will attend Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees at Staffordshire County Council, Newcastle Borough Council and Moorlands District Council during September which will inform the next steps in the process, for example, indicating if a formal consultation is required.

Podiatry Service

A review of the Podiatry service has taken place and access criteria to the service have been re-designed in conjunction with the referral form to improve the triage process. This will ensure access to the service is based on need only. There was a discussion about alternative points of access to NHS care for people who, because of their health condition, need a nail cutting service but not the specialist service of podiatrists.

A further update on data received to monitor improvement will be provided at the December congress meeting.

Public Health Issues in North Staffordshire

John Harvey, Consultant in Public Health, attended congress to give an overview of the role of public health and to discuss the main priorities for public health within North Staffordshire.

The main public health issues were identified and congress discussed the following as part of their role in improving public health in the local area.

- Congress can be used as a sounding board to discuss new public health initiatives in the local area.
- Under 5's should be the easiest group to tackle by way of making the biggest impact at a young impressionable age. A multi-disciplinary approach should be taken to link clinical and social care aspects around the welfare and wellbeing of children to ensure they are 'school ready'.
- Joint Strategic Assessments should take place including increased use of the information held by the voluntary sector to inform these assessments.
- Housing authorities can contribute towards improving the place that we live, which has an impact on health.
- Communities could benefit from linking the over 55s with the needs of the under 5s in a supporting role.
- An awareness campaign on health and prevention should be focused on the over 55's (the 'pre' older age group) . This could greatly benefit the community ethos in many areas e.g. in helping to run childrens' playgroups, supporting new parents, the role of the grandparent.

Transforming Cancer and End of Life Programmes

The congress was updated on plans to transform the coordination of Cancer and End of Life Care across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent through the procurement of a Prime Provider and was assured that the patient voice and perspective is a key driver during this process.

