

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CCG PATIENT CONGRESS
Summary of meeting on Thursday 23rd February 2017

Community Conversation (Older People's Health)

Congress members heard that the Older People's Network Forum (OPEN) held a Joint Forum / Community Conversation with North Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent CCGs on the 20th October 2016. The topic of discussion was older people's health. Over 150 people attended the event to give their views, including partner organisations who had information stalls. 124 people gave their views about older people's health and 106 people were aged fifty plus. In addition, 176 people aged fifty plus gave their views at community groups and at housing schemes in Stoke-on-Trent from October - November 2016.

The conversation focussed on the following flowing themes 1) how older people's services are experienced now and what improvements are required; 2) how we can prevent and deal with trips and falls and: 3) how we can better communicate with older people.

Following the event members of the OPEN Committee, North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent CCGs Patient Congresses and PPI Lay Members met to develop the eight key recommendations from the feedback received at the conversation and group meetings. The recommendations would be used to inform the way services for older people are commissioned in the future.

Community Conversation (Maternity and Infant Health)

Congress members heard that the Community Conversation was held on the 31st January 2017 and focused on maternity and infant health and was a delightful session, attended by pregnant mums, mums who had young children, people who ran groups for young mums and babies, health visitors and student health visitors.

The draft report was presented to congress members highlighting the feedback captured from the discussion groups who were asked a number of questions. The feedback received would inform CCGs on what they needed to know in order to achieve the delivery of the commissioning strategy and national guidance.

Plans for Community Conversation (PPGs)

Congress members heard that the next Community Conversation would be held on the 26th April 2017 and will focus on PPGs.

PPG Action Plan

Congress members heard 1) that the PPG Action Plan had been developed as a result of a survey undertaken with Practice Managers and PPGs, to identify the current PPG situation e.g. virtual arrangements, what PPGs were in place and how they were operating, what work the PPGs were doing and if any PPGs were struggling to operate and how the CCGs could support; 2) the importance of the crucial role of PPGs in general health and wellbeing in the community, particularly around patient involvement and correctly signposting patients in GP practices; 3) that the PPG Action Plan highlighted that many PPGs are operating successfully both within their practices and in their community and; 4) that work was underway to look at how PPGs could get more involved in the community particularly around social prescribing etc. and also how PPGs could be supported and work with MCPs, HUBs and operate virtually via Social Media.

Congress members raised 1) the need for PPGs to recruit more patient members; this could be supported by inviting patients to attend the forthcoming Community Conversation to target this group; 2) the need for the CCGs to support PPGs to recruit members; 3) that PPGs were struggling to recruit younger members.

Patient Membership Action Plan

Congress members heard that one of the actions from the Patient Membership Action Plan was to simplify the membership joining criteria. New members who wished to sign up to the membership scheme would now only have to provide their name and email address. congress members to provide feedback and / or their preference on the two draft membership forms that had been circulated via email to congress members

Summary of news, views and perspectives from patient participation and locality groups and third sector organisations

- A Health Awareness Day will be held on the 7th June 2017 at the Trinity Church in Leek.
- North Staffordshire Voice for Mental Health lottery funded Celebration of volunteering event will be taking place on the 2nd March 2017, 10am – 2pm at the Newcastle Methodist Church.

Date of the next meeting

Joint North Staffordshire CCG and Stoke-on-Trent CCG Patient Congress meeting
Wednesday 12th April 2017