



Transforming health and social care in Kent and Medway

Letter to Kent Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Medway Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Kent Health and Wellbeing Board; Medway Health and Wellbeing Board; all Kent and Medway MPs; Healthwatch Kent; Healthwatch Medway; GPs; NHS staff in Kent and Medway; Kent County Council members and staff; Medway Council councillors and staff; NHS Health Network members; Patient Participation Group chairs and members; service user forums; foundation trust members; voluntary and community sector; Local Medical Committee, Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Local Dental Committee, Local Optometric Committee; district and borough council leaders, chief executives, members and staff; town councils; parish councils; independent providers.

23 November 2016

Dear colleague

Transforming health and social care in Kent and Medway

We are pleased to share with you our draft Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) which sets out our thinking on how services need to change over the next five years to achieve the right care for people for decades to come.

It has been developed by NHS, social care and public health leaders in Kent and Medway. It is the first time we have all worked together in this way and it gives us a unique opportunity to bring about positive and genuine improvement in health and social care delivery over the next five years.

People in Kent and Medway need safe, high quality, integrated and sustainable health and social care services that meet their needs now and into the future.

Our draft plan builds on conversations held over several years with local people about the care they want and need, and has the patient at its heart.

However, it is work in progress - we are not putting forward concrete proposals at this stage. Instead, we are sharing our ambition for the future and our thinking on where we need to focus. We want better health and wellbeing for Kent and Medway, better standards of care and better use of staff and funds to meet the changing needs of local people.

Currently, in Kent and Medway:

- 4,000 people die early as the result of diseases which are mostly preventable
- 240,000 people over 50 are living with long-term disability, largely as the result of health conditions. Often this could be avoided or delayed if people were more active or made other lifestyle changes
- around one in four people in our hospital beds at any given time could be at home or cared for elsewhere. (This varies depending on area.). For older people this impacts on their recovery - 10 days in hospital (whether it is an acute (main) or community hospital) leads to the equivalent of 10 years' ageing in the muscles of people over 80.

To help people make the most of their lives, we want to:

- prevent ill health
- intervene earlier
- have excellent care wherever it is delivered.

Working like this will also enable us to make better use of staff and funds to secure the long-term future of health and care services.

Across Kent and Medway, health and social care have £3.4billion in funding but overspent by £141million last year. Without change, we would be looking at a gap of £486million in our budgets by 2020/21.



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Successful delivery of the vision set out in our initial Sustainability and Transformation Plan will mean we expect to be in balance by 2020/21 apart from £29million, which is the expected annual cost of the health services required by the population of the new town at Ebbsfleet. We will be bidding for additional funds for this.

Our pledge to the people of Kent and Medway

We want to get this right, and we need local people's views to help us do that.

So we will use all the means at our disposal to involve patients, carers, the public and health and care professionals, at every stage.

At this stage we would request that you encourage as many people as possible to:

- complete our survey which can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KandMstp>
- join their GP patient participation group, clinical commissioning group Health Network or become a member of an NHS trust to be kept informed
- read the STP or the summary, *Transforming health and social care in Kent and Medway*, which sets out the key points in simpler terms
- further distribute this information so that it reaches as many people as possible in Kent and Medway.

Further information, including a glossary, and questions and answers, will be on our websites from 3pm today, 23 November 2016.

In the New Year along with more detailed information about the STP, we will publish a timetable for engaging with the public in Kent and Medway in 2017. We look forward to working with you to deliver safe, high quality, integrated and sustainable health and social care services that meet the needs of the people of Kent and Medway for the future.

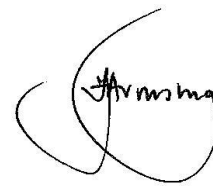
Yours sincerely



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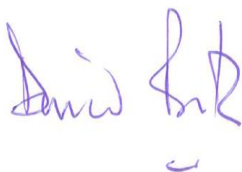
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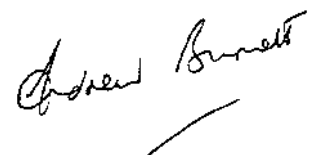
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Transforming health and social care in Kent and Medway

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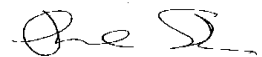
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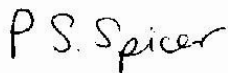
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