

Health and Wellbeing Board

16th January 2020

Update Report on Progress of Single Strategic Commissioner Application by NHS Shropshire CCG and NHS Telford and Wrekin CCG

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1. Summary

1.1 At the NHS Shropshire CCG Board meeting held on 14th May 2019, the Governing Body agreed to support the dissolution of both CCGs and the formation of a single strategic commissioning organisation for the Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin footprint. It also supported recruitment of a single Accountable Officer across both CCGs and the establishment of a single management team whether an early application to NHS England for establishment of a single CCG was accepted or not. On September 17th both CCG memberships supported this proposal and an application was formally made to NHS England/NHS Improvement on 30th September to dissolve the two existing CCGs with a view to creating a single CCG from April 2020.

1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide a further progress update on the application process for creating a single strategic commissioner across Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin from the last report presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting held on 12th September 2019.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the contents of the report.

REPORT

3. Report on progress of the single strategic commissioner application

3.1 Following the formal application to NHS England /NHS Improvement on 30th September 2019, to create a single strategic commissioner, a panel meeting was convened by the regional NHS England/NHS Improvement team to consider the application in more detail on 11th October 2019.

3.2 Following the NHS England panel meeting, the CCGs were informed that the application had been unsuccessful, due to the fact that the CCGs had not had enough time to develop the strategic thinking that underpinned some key evidence and documentation submitted with the application, which did not fully meet the NHS England /NHS Improvement application criteria.

3.3 However, the NHS England Panel provided very positive feedback on the application, acknowledging the effort and contribution in developing the application by the two CCGs. The

Panel's view was that if the CCGs had more time, the application would have been stronger and the late start clearly disadvantaged our application.

3.4 The feedback highlighted the strength of the application on the following points:

- commitment to the application;
- good progress has been made in the time the CCGs have had and cohesive application with several strengths was submitted;
- membership support for the proposal;
- significant effort in securing Organisational Development (OD), Human Resources (HR) and Project Management Office (PMO) support;
- good progress on understanding the challenge and developing the strategic thinking and supporting documentation;
- well-structured and clear overall Programme plan;
- comprehensive Communications and Engagement Plan; and
- comprehensive Primary Care Strategy.

3.5 In addition to the positive feedback on the application submission, the NHS England/NHS Improvement Panel also made a firm offer to support the CCGs to make a further application earlier than the normal deadline of September 2020, as they believe our application can be enhanced to meet the 10 application criteria in full, if we continue to work at pace. We have agreed with NHS England the following new timescale for re-application:

- Final submission of revised application evidence - 30th April 2020
- Regional NHS England/NHS Improvement panel – early June 2020
- National NHS England/NHS Improvement Committee – July 2020
- Creation of a new single CCG - April 2021

The programme plan and timescales have been revised accordingly.

3.6 As part of NHS England's commitment to supporting both CCGs through this process and acknowledging their feedback from the panel process, two national merger leads on Organisational Development (OD)/HR and Strategy have been asked by NHS England/NHS Improvement to provide support to the programme in relation to next steps required on OD and further support on developing the Commissioning Strategy.

3.7 Public engagement on the proposal to create one single CCG across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin was due to start in December but had to be postponed due to purdah as a result of the general election. This has now been scheduled in January and February 2020 with public engagement launch event taking place on 24th January in Shrewsbury. In addition we are also arranging 2 hour pop ups at Oswestry Library, Darwin Shopping Centre Shrewsbury, Ludlow Library, Park Lane Centre Telford, Telford Shopping Centre and Tesco Supermarket Wellington. Engagement feedback will be collected via a survey form which will be available online and in hard copy.

3.8 Both CCGs are now exploring the options to align their respective governance structures and processes to allow a single management and staff team to support both CCGs efficiently and effectively in the interim period, running up to the planned creation of a single strategic Commissioner in April 2021.

3.9 As previously stated, the management of change process to create one single staffing structure to support both CCGs for senior managers and staff has started and will continue regardless of the delay in a successful application,. A management of change process for Director

roles began in November and concluded in December 2019 and the following appointments have been made:

Executive Director Finance (CFO)	Mrs Claire Skidmore
Executive Director Transformation	Dr Jessica Sokolov
Director Corporate Affairs	Miss Alison Smith
Director Planning	Mrs Samantha Tilley
Director Performance	Dr Julie Davies

The following roles have not been appointed to and will go out to national advert for recruitment:

Executive Director Quality
Director Partnerships

3.10 Following the appointment of Directors, staff structures will start to be developed in the New Year with a view to staff management of change beginning in February and completing in April/May 2020.

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

4.1 The highest risk to the programme had been with regard to the very ambitious timescale we originally had to make an application. However, this has now materially changed to the risk that we now need to maintain momentum to the programme, as the new timeline for making a further application has now been agreed as 30th April 2020, with a view to a single CCG being created in April 2021.

4.2 The positive benefit of this change is that it affords us more time to refine our commissioning strategy, operating model and finance plan for the new single strategic commissioner.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Future working arrangements are a key consideration in the financial and clinical sustainability of the CCG's going forwards.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Single Strategic Commissioner Update Report to HWBB - 12 th September 2019 and appendix

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

n/a

Local Member

n/a

Appendices

n/a
