

South Woodham Ferrers Health and Social Care Group
Future of Healthcare Meeting
Thursday 11th July 2019 in Holy Trinity Church

This meeting was held directly following the Group's AGM. The audience numbered 30 including the speakers.

7. Welcome, Apologies, Context & Introductions

Chairman Peter Blackman opened the meeting by welcoming the speakers and the audience.

8. Today's NHS and Tomorrow's

A presentation given by Caroline Russell, Accountable Officer, NHS Mid Essex CCG. This presentation is available on the HSCG website. Caroline gave a brief history of the NHS and its development since its inception in 1948. She described the work that was being carried out currently in Mid Essex and she pointed to some of the ways that things might develop in the future. She explained that the NHS Plan is long term covering a ten year period and differed from previous plans in that it concentrated on Primary Care rather than hospitals. She described that in the past healthcare was delivered at the point of failure of health. This is because things have gone wrong relating to eg healthy lifestyle, weight management, mental wellbeing, social factors such as housing, effect of pollution etc. By directing attention at these preventative measures, the needs of the health service could radically change. There followed a question and answer session.

Q1 - How is it anticipated that communications across the NHS will be improved?

A1 - Care share records will be available to primary care, hospitals and other NHS service providers. Over 60 million people's records in UK. A limited person record is also made available to Pharmacists to enable prescription services to be fulfilled.

Q2 - In the presentation how is the network area defined?

A2 - South Woodham Ferrers plus Bicknacre including "Top Woodham"

The Chairman pointed out that there have been many advances over the 70 years of the NHS. Whilst moves to bring services nearer to patients are a good thing, sometimes it is better to centralise specialist services to take advantage of the expertise of the clinicians. People need to be prepared to travel but all efforts should be made to make it easier for people to cope with the distances. This is not just in respect of patients but also carers and family.

9. “The Livewell Linkwell Partnership” – social prescribing

James Taylor, North and Mid Essex Team Lead, Essex Lifestyle Service, introduced the basics of the Social Prescribing programme and its place in the Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group’s Live Well Project. A copy of his presentation is available on the HSCG website. He introduced Penny Collantine who is the Live Well Link Worker for South Woodham Ferrers. Currently she spends some time at the Practices in the Town. She can make home visits if necessary. She will be based at Crouch Vale Medical Centre when it opens. After James’s presentation there was the opportunity for questions and answers.

Q1 - What is being done about better ground floor access to dentists?

A1 - Currently one dentist has ground floor access and another has a stairlift. At Crouch Vale Medical Centre there is lift access for disabled.

Q2 - Will Penny be at the Medical Centre all the time?

A2 - She is hoping to be there at least two days per week. James said that Live Well are hoping to be there every Thursday.

Q3 - Can dementia sufferers be given support?

A3 - Anything that is non-urgent or non-clinical is possible.

Q4 - What surgeries does Penny work for?

A4 - Penny works for Chelmsford CVS but her time is spent in Practices in SWF and the Dengie

Peter concluded this session by saying that this was a good example of our Locality being used to kick off new initiatives. Social care and health services being joined up was most important and closer working with social care givers is a must.

10. Crouch Vale Medical Centre

Robert Evans from the MECCG then gave an update presentation about progress on the move to Crouch Vale Medical Centre. The presentation is on the HSCG website. There were a number of questions asked at the meeting. These coupled with questions raised at the subsequent drop – in event have been used to produce a new Frequently Asked Questions paper now available on Practice websites and HSCG website. They have also been summarised and put into context in Focus magazine issue 915.

11. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

The Chairman again thanked all those attending and the speakers for giving up their time.