

Policy Briefing: Help Us Build A New NHS in South West London. Issues Paper
Full and Summary Version

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Purpose of document

In South West London, 6 NHS Clinical Commissioning groups (Croydon, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth) and commissioners from NHS England are working together with hospitals, mental health, primary and community care services and local councils on an NHS Five-Year Forward View - a plan to improve health and services for the people living in these areas. They have published an Issues Paper for discussion, to set out the current challenges faced specifically by the local health service, some of the proposed ideas to address them, and some questions for people to respond to.

Summary of contents

The paper explains the main issues for health services locally and why things need to change. The issues include the quality and safety of health services; delivering health services based on what patients need; managing financial and workforce challenges; and integrated and collaborative services for patients. The report uses key points to describe how the NHS is responding to the challenges that it is facing from a national context. It also includes discussions about the changes to health services in the boroughs that are being put forward by the Clinical Commissioning Groups led by GPs, to address the challenges. This is based on 8 clinical areas.

Summary of outcomes

Although the South West London Collaborative Commissioning Team have already started working on the five-year strategy in each borough, they want to continue to develop their outline plan and therefore encourage local people to get involved in this by reading all versions of the Issues Paper and sharing their views on the questions raised so that the NHS can take this into account. Details on how people can respond are provided at the back of the report.

Summary of recommendations (in South West London)

- Collaborative and coordinated work and responsibility across health and social care and services.
- Improve and increase community care and services, and more help from community health workers for adults and children to lead healthy lifestyles, keep them well and out of hospital.
- Specialist care from senior doctors in A&E seven days a week.
- Easy access to midwife-led care and home births for low risk women, and high quality care for pregnant women with complex needs.
- Preventing last-minute cancellations of planned operations, and developing centres of excellence for doctors.
- Improve the quality of life, support and access to services for people with mental health problems.
- Greater focus on preventing cancer, and early diagnosis, and better patient experience and choice of community health services.

Further information and resources

South West London 5-Year Strategic Plan

<http://www.swlccgs.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/SWL-5-year-strategic-plan.pdf>

NHS England <http://www.england.nhs.uk/>