

# WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**Report of the:** NHS Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group  
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Telephone No:  
**Ward Members:** This paper will affect all wards in Warrington

### TITLE OF REPORT: DRAFT CONSULTATION PLAN: [PRIMARY CARE] EXTENDED ACCESS SERVICES

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The first purpose of this report is to provide Scrutiny Committee with an update on the requirements of NHS England for extended access and enhanced hours services from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.
- 1.2 The second purpose of this report is to provide Scrutiny Committee with the details of the associated consultation plan due to commence in May 2022 and to request the committee's comment and approval.

#### 2. CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT

- 2.1 Exempt

#### 3. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Effective consultation is at the heart of our commitment to the community. It is important that we ensure that residents of Warrington, our service users, partners and all other interested parties have the opportunity to be involved in the planning, prioritising and monitoring of our services and are involved in the decision-making processes and activities.
- 3.2 Extended Access to primary care services (enabling patients to access some elements of core primary care) was introduced by NHS England in 2016 to ensure everyone has easier and more convenient access to GP services, including physical and digital appointments at evenings and weekends.
- 3.3 Responsibility for commissioning this service currently sits with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) but subject to appropriate engagement and consultation being undertaken along with robust plans for delivery, responsibility for the provision of extended access will move to Primary Care Networks (PCNs) from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

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- 3.4 In addition to the extended access service all practices working as Primary Care Networks (PCN) are required to offer enhanced hours appointments. This requirement sits within the Primary Care Network Direct Enhanced Service. The enhanced hours requirement for practices is to offer a reasonable mix of face-to-face appointments and other modes of access (e.g., telephone, video or online consultations) either before or immediately after core hours.
- 3.5 From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022, NHS England is merging the two services together to create a new service that will be known as enhanced access. The funding for this revised service and the commissioning responsibility will become a contractual requirement for PCNs rather than Clinical Commissioning Groups or their successor bodies.
- 3.6 NHS England requirements will require all PCNs in England to ensure all their registered patients have easy and convenient access to GP services, including physical and digital appointments outside of the core hours for primary care delivery (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6:30pm). The enhanced access service will be required to provide 60 minutes of appointments per 1,000 patients per week from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

### **4. CURRENT SERVICES**

- 4.1 NHS Warrington CCG currently commissions a Primary Care Extended Access Service delivered from Bath Street Health and Wellbeing Centre on Legh Street in Warrington. This service offers both physical and digital appointments for patients registered with all 26 practices in Warrington. The service offers 15 minutes of appointments per 1,000 patients. This service remains commissioned by the CCG until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 when responsibility for commissioning of this service will transfer to each of the individual PCNs. There is a requirement to consult and engage with respect to this service.
- 4.2 The Eric Moore Partnership provides an extended access service for their registered patients only. In line with the current directions from NHS England this service should be amalgamated into the PCN service. The Eric Moore Partnership is part of the Central and West Warrington Primary Care Network. There is a requirement to consult and engage with respect to this service.
- 4.3 To enable the PCNs to appropriately plan and prepare to accept the commissioning responsibilities NHS Warrington CCG has, since August 2021, funded an additional extended access service at PCN level. This additional service was a pilot and not a commissioned service to ensure the PCNs had the opportunity to plan and to commence engagement with their own patients to inform the consultation.

### **5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 NHS Warrington CCG and/or their successor organisation is required to fund PCNs for the service, in line with NHS England conditions, from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

### **6. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 NHS Warrington CCG considers that this is part of business as usual and there is no open risk.

### **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY / EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 The requirement for PCNs to receive the funding and responsibilities for delivering the services sits with NHS England guidance and instructions. All guidance issued by NHS England has been taken through an equality impact assessment process.
- 7.2 Prior to commissioning the town wide service from Bath Street the CCG undertook an equality impact assessment.
- 7.3 Each PCN prior to commencing their pilot service undertook an equality impact assessment.
- 7.4 To ensure that people can make a considered response to the consultation, they must have access to all the relevant information. NHS Warrington CCG and the five PCNs in Warrington are committed to being transparent throughout the process and will publish the following documents on the CCG website and the websites for each PCN/practice.
- ~ Information on the case for change, options appraisal, how the public, their patients, have been involved and shaped the options, and details of equality impact assessments.
  - ~ Quality and equality impact assessments for each site

### **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 This report is to request the committee's comment and approval on the consultation into extended access services to commence in May 2022 for a period of 12 weeks.

### **9. RECOMMENDATION**

- 9.1 That the committee endorse the consultation approach for primary care delivered extended access services by NHS Warrington CCG, Central East Warrington Primary Care Network, Central and West Warrington Primary Care Network, East Warrington Primary Care Network, South Warrington Primary Care Network and Warrington Innovation Network.

### **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 10.1 There are 3 background papers linked to this report.

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### Details and Contacts for Background Papers:

<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Extended Access Services – an Overview	<a href="mailto:Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net">Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net</a>	01925 303030
Collaborative proposed model	<a href="mailto:Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net">Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net</a>	01925 303030
CWW PCN proposed model	<a href="mailto:Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net">Warccg.halccg.primarycare@nh.s.net</a>	01925 303030