

A briefing paper on Stroke Services

This paper is to share what is happening with Stroke Services in County Durham.

Why

- We want to ensure that we are making the best use of funding available to Stroke patients
- We want to hear how patients find the current services and what they think could be improved
- We would like to make the existing services more clinically focussed and look at the 6 month follow up assessment

What's next?

We are extending the current arrangements with the Stroke Association until December 2017.

Joint working between the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Stroke Association, Durham County Council and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) is currently taking place. This will ensure that all parties are involved in shaping services.

A 12 week engagement exercise will be undertaken, starting in August. We will work in partnership with stakeholders, led by the Head of Primary Care and Engagement from the CCG. A report detailing the engagement that has been carried out will be ready in October.

A questionnaire will be developed and patients and the public will be given a number of ways that they can get involved and share details about their care, how services have worked for them and what could be improved.

We will be engaging with patients who have had a Stroke, ensuring we target those who have used the service recently. We will take into account that some patients may need visual aids or extra support to allow them to fully participate.

We will be focussing on patient related outcome measures as part of the engagement process.

We will be reaching out to 1,500 carers across the county and liaising with support groups about the current services.

We are hoping to work with Healthwatch or another partner to help us to carry out the focus groups as an independent body, ensuring that we have representation in all six localities across County Durham, this is to be confirmed shortly.

Further information will be shared around the engagement work and how you can get involved in the coming weeks.

Following completion of the engagement exercise a number of options will be developed for consideration by the CCG executive committees and presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) including new service model if appropriate.