NHS community based health services in Mid & South Essex and St Peter's Hospital, Maldon, including Cherry Trees

Public Consultation Hearing 19 March 2024

Please read in conjunction with PowerPoint presentation slides. There is some duplication as this paper being used as speaking notes.
Taking this and the Powerpoint presentation to have been read.

Spokesperson: Peter Blackman

- Chair, South Woodham Ferrers Health & Social Care Group
- Where is SWF?! West edge of Dengie Peninsular, North bank of River Crouch
- Chair, Trauma East Voices, East of England Major Trauma Network
- Was 1st Chair, Essex & Southend LINk (Local Involvement Network) &
- Chair, Joint East of England LINks' Group

South Woodham Ferrers Health & Social Care Group

In April 2016 it was agreed by SWF Healthcare 2000 Group (SWFHC2000 – a Millenium project started in 1999) and SWF Town Council (SWF TC) to form the new South Woodham Ferrers Health & Social Care Group (SWF H&SCG). This is an amalgamation of SWFHC2000 and the SWF Care Lunches. It was agreed to run SWF H&SCG for an initial year's pilot when it was reviewed in conjunction with SWF TC. It was then agreed to continue as SWF H&SCG was operating as had been intended.

SWFH&SCG is an independent group with its own governance arrangements as set out below.

Purpose of the Group

SWF H&SCG was established to look after the health and social care interests of the people of South Woodham Ferrers, recognising the roles of health and social care related professionals, volunteers and the Patient Participation Groups.

SWF H&SCG incorporates the SWFHC2000 Task Force, which convenes when consultation or representation is required to consider major health and social care issues affecting the Town.

The task force includes representatives from:

- Essex County Council
- Chelmsford City Council
- SWF Town Council
- SWF Chairs of Patient Participation Groups (PPGs)
- SWF Practice Managers
- SWF & Dengie PCN staff
- SWF Faith Communities
- SWF Pharmacists
- SWF Dentists
- SWF Opticians
- SWF Business Community
- SWF Educational establishments
- SWF Women's Institutes (WIs)
- SWF Rotary & other benevolent groups
- SWF Senior Citizens
- SWF Sports & uniformed groups

Others may be added as needed. The Town's MP is kept advised of significant developments and is expected to continue to use this group for appropriate constituency purposes.

Each of SWF's General Practices had a Patient Participation Group (PPG) interacting with the Practice Staff to try to ensure that the best quality services are provided for their patients. In addition there is a combined group known as the South Woodham Ferrers Combined PPGs (CPPGs). The CPPGs works closely with SWF H&SCG on matters involving all health and social care services provision for the Town. SWF H&SCG leads on all non-GP services whilst the CPPGs leads on the Town's GP services. Although individual Practices have their own websites on which PPGs have a page, they have agreed with SWF H&SCG to use its website for communicating collective issues. Additionally they will utilise SWF H&CG's social media to obtain the widest possible coverage. So from time to time you will see PPG news here helping to give an integrated view of health and social care in SWF. This increased substantially during the Covid-19 pandemic and has continued since then.

Following the last amalgamations of SWF's GP Practices there are now only two and two PPGs. They cooperate as the CPPGs.

On 20 March 2020 SWF H&SCG was asked by the local GPs and pharmacists to provide the essential voluntary community work for the Covid-19 pandemic. This scheme started on 23 March 2020 and ran daily until 30 June 2022. This was developed and run by SWF H&SCG using recruited volunteers.

Governance

SWF H&SCG is open to anyone who lives, works, has a local need to access health and social care or is involved in health and social care in SWF.

SWF H&SCG will be managed by a Management Team comprising Chair, Task Force Chair and Minute Secretary, supported by an Administrator.

There will be an annual meeting open to all, at which the posts of co-Chairmen and Minute Secretary will be elected.

Nomination notices will be issued in the local press 4 weeks prior to the meeting with nominations for office required 2 weeks before the meeting.

The nominations will be addressed to the Administrator.

Nominees must have a proposer and seconder and be willing to serve.

SWF TC will assign a representative and/or a deputy to attend meetings and report back to SWF TC as appropriate.

The SWF TC representative will also be a member of the Task Force as required.

The Administrator will be appointed by the Management Team and he/she will receive an honorarium or be paid on a self-employed basis for the work.

SWF H&SCG has a bank account and there will be an annual financial statement submitted by the Administrator to SWF TC on a date to be agreed.

SWF H&SCG's Annual General Meeting will be chaired by a City Councillor.

CONTACT US
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SWF H&SCG + Warwick Medical School
Health, Welfare & Social Care Assessment of the Dengie & South Woodham Ferrers (SWF) Primary Care Network, June 2023

Produced in conjunction with Mid & South Essex Integrated Care System (MSE ICS) & Mid Essex Alliance
6000+ words
Possibly most comprehensive report about an area whose population of 45,000 is arguably the second largest users of the services in question after Maldon.

PCN staff arrived from April 2023 and the Mindmap and commentary are drawn completely from our report and are the initial agenda for the PCN's work.

This identified and confirmed the Key Issues and concerns of the patients and public are:

- Accessibility
  - on the Dengie especially the geography, distance for services, and length of time for arrival of ambulances to 999 calls and to reach an A&E
  - in SWF lack of supply to meet demand for services
  - for all, distance to acute services
- Transport
- More services
- Lack of appointments
- Improve transport

SWF Virtual Consultation Meeting: Held on 5 March 2024

Hosted kindly by MSE ICS on Teams; hence difficult to access recording outside the NHS fraternity; **please obtain your copy of this from Tegan Gardiner Tegan.gardiner2@nhs.net** and her colleague is Claire Hankey, as we don't think the copy in our slides will enable you to use the link and gain access.

Consultation Questions

1. **Intermediate Inpatient Care Services**

- 22 intermediate care beds at Cumberledge Intermediate Care Centre, Rochford, which is common to both Options A & B.
- Billericay is still close to Brentwood

2. **Stroke Rehabilitation Inpatient Services**

- Opinions do differ; understandably, and as reflected in our report and our virtual consultation meeting, people want services to be close to home; this has been an expectation of the NHS since 1948 and we have regularly suggested that there is a huge need for the NHS to mount an effective

education and information campaign to bring the patients and public up to date with the present-day NHS.

- We always recommend and support the best care and outcomes for survival and recovery, which are proved to come from maximising expertise and experience eg East of England Major Trauma Network and Basildon Cardiothoracic Centre.
- So we want staff and specialists to be brought together in a single 50-bed stroke rehabilitation unit at Brentwood Community Hospital as that will deliver the best outcomes. Strokes are well known as very serious emergencies; thankfully rehabilitation has advanced significantly and we know the best rehabilitation is needed to deliver the best recovery, standard of life, and least long term cost of health and welfare support.
- But that **must be matched** by good transport, parking, accessibility and resources for family and friends to visit. Option A
- An overall loss of 3 intermediate care beds is marginal whilst that will remain well spread around MSE.

3. **Freestanding Midwife-led birthing unit**

Nearest or best? Is “about 6 births per month” a critical mass?

- Opinions differ.
- We always want best care and outcomes which come from maximising expertise and experience eg Major Trauma Centres & Cardiothoracic Centres.
- Bringing together staff and specialists at Braintree Community Hospital will deliver best outcomes.
- But that must be matched by good transport, parking, accessibility and resources for birthing partners. The distance between Maldon and Braintree is similar to distances to such units in many other parts of the country and bookings are for low-risk births, with suitable pre-planning.

4. **Other Outpatient Services provided at St Peter’s Hospital, Maldon & Cherry Trees**

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- **Must not stop any present such services until alternatives in Maldon and surrounds are up and running, providing at least the same numbers of appointments.**
- Central Maldon joins the Dengie & SWF in an Integrated Neighbourhood Team.
- Dengie & SWF have 45,000 population in a peninsular and are major users.
- This is a one-off opportunity to bring all the locations of all these services up to today’s standards of compliance whilst maintaining the tremendous skill and care which has always been a huge part of the experience of all services at St Peter’s.
- This must be matched by good transport, parking, accessibility and patient and visitor facilities for all the new locations.

We are told that:
Several sites have been suggested as potential future locations for the provision of ambulatory/outpatient care services that are currently provided at St Peter's Hospital in Maldon.

The potential locations identified through the process so far include (in no particular order):

- District Council buildings, Princes Road, Maldon (would be subject to approval of Maldon District Council)
- 2nd Floor Carmelite House, White Horse Lane, Maldon (would be subject to approval of ECC)
- Blackwater Leisure Centre, Park Drive, Maldon (would be subject to approval of Maldon District Council)
- Retail premises – High Street, Maldon
- Existing Health Facilities, Wantz Chase, Maldon
- Existing Health Facilities, Tylers Ride, South Woodham Ferrers
- Braintree Community Hospital (for x-ray services)
- Burnham Clinic – 33 Crouch Road, Burnham-on-Crouch

The potential locations require further enquiries to determine if they are suitable to accommodate ambulatory/outpatient health services, this work is on-going and subject to commercial sensitivities.
We are committed to working with service users and local people to develop our place and make sure key services remain local.

- The potential locations above plus any more that come into consideration in Maldon and surrounds appear to be potentially suitable for delivery of the community services in question in the immediate future.
- Except x-ray services going to Braintree, which is already fully used. This is an opportunity to bring a modern x-ray and investigative centre, a new diagnostic and treatment centre, to Maldon.
- MSE ICB has said there are bridging financial arrangements available between setting up new premises and receiving the sale proceeds of St Peter's. Part of that should be used to deliver a new x-ray and other scanning services in the Maldon area which will help to meet the present saturation of demand and waiting times.
- All new locations for these services must be accompanied by good transport, parking, accessibility and facilities for patients and accompanying family, friends and carers.

Elephant in the room

- 25 YEARS OF CONSULTATIONS & PLANNING COMING TO NOTHING
- SWF has been represented on many task groups about a replacement for St Peter's but they were never finalised and delivered
- We are now in the context of today's NHS, with St Peter's being unfit for purpose, past its sell by date and unsafe
- We stand by our above recommendations about in-patient beds because their priority is best outcomes

- We stand by our above recommendations for outpatient services which don't need specialist fixed equipment
- BUT we do plead for and strongly recommend, that a new diagnostic and treatment centre be planned and built immediately in Maldon or close by to meet today's and forecast growth of demand in the Maldon existing catchment area and to serve South East Essex below the River Crouch. This is the least to be done to ameliorate all the past broken promises.

Happy to answer questions and comments.

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https://swfhealthsocial.co.uk/

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