



Seeking your views on transforming health and care in Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes

Overview and update, 1 March 2017

The Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Sustainability and Transformation Plan (BLMK STP) is being developed to transform the way health and social care services are delivered across the region.

We want to make sure that you, the people who use our services, are fully involved in this process so we can incorporate local people's views, experiences and ideas into our plans.

We started involving local people in the STP in October / November 2016, when we invited feedback on the BLMK STP submission to NHS England.¹

Since then, the 16 STP partners¹ have been working closely with local doctors, nurses and other clinicians to identify some of the specific areas where they feel focus and change are needed.

We would now like to gather your feedback on this thinking, which has been gathered together in a Discussion Paper entitled "*Seeking your views on transforming health and care in Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes*" (published 1 March 2017).¹

Your input will inform our thinking as discussions progress and the development of potential solutions that will be offered at a later public consultation. We would stress that no decisions have been made as yet. Furthermore, no decisions will be made on major service changes that impact on staff or patients without formal consultation.

About the BLMK STP

As with many parts of the country, our local health and care services are under significant pressure and, with demand increasing all the time, our STP partners are agreed that we must think differently about how services are delivered if we are to deliver high quality, sustainable care for local people.

The STP is not about stopping services, it's about changing the way we do things to achieve a shared vision for health and care in BLMK¹, where people are supported to stay healthy for longer, with access to better services and better care, with more of it delivered closer to home.

Our three local hospitals play a crucial role in providing care for local people and they are working closely together to develop a unified service across our three existing hospital sites. Any change to hospital-based care will need to be integrated with, and supported by, developments in primary, community and social care.

¹ You can find the March 2017 Discussion Paper, a public summary of the October 2016 submission to NHS England (containing the STP partners' shared vision for health and care in BLMK) and a list of the 16 BLMK STP partners on the www.blmkstp.co.uk website

Six focus areas

Below are six areas where our local doctors and nurses feel focus and change are needed in order to deliver high quality care for local people. This is not an exhaustive list and we welcome other ideas or suggestions to meet the challenges faced.

<p>Emergency care</p>  <p>With our population growing and hospital A&E services under considerable pressure, how do we make sure local people continue to have access to safe, high quality emergency services, especially at night when our clinical staff can be most stretched? Are there any safety benefits in enabling teams to work together to run some services from fewer sites, especially overnight?</p>	<p>Care closer to home</p>  <p>Part of our overall vision for the future of local healthcare is for more services to be delivered closer to people’s homes. Are there any specific services, or aspects of them, that could be delivered more effectively in community settings, rather than in hospital?</p>
<p>Planned care</p>  <p>High levels of demand for emergency services are having an impact on the planned care provided by hospitals, leading to cancellations and longer waits. How can we design services in a way that protects planned care?</p>	<p>Maternity care</p>  <p>How do we make sure we can offer all mothers high quality maternity care while accommodating an increasing number of births? Could we concentrate services associated with high risk births on fewer hospital sites?</p>
<p>Centres of excellence</p>  <p>We are currently not achieving national standards for planned care consistently and, in some areas, do not have enough specialists to be able to further improve. Could we focus some areas of specialist care, or certain aspects of them, on specific hospital sites?</p>	<p>Children’s services</p>  <p>With children’s services at our hospitals facing staffing and capacity pressures, can we change the way we deliver paediatric care at each of our hospitals, perhaps by separating out different aspects of paediatric care?</p>



Have your say

We are looking to gather your feedback on the latest thinking contained in the March 2017 Discussion Paper² as an important part of the pre-consultation process for the BLMK STP.

We have organised a series of events in early March where we will be giving you the opportunity to ask questions and provide your views and ideas.

Date	Venue	Times
6 March	Milton Keynes Christian Centre, MK6 2TG	2.30pm to 5pm 6.30pm to 9pm
7 March	Rufus Centre, Flitwick, Central Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH	
8 March	Addison Centre, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 8PN	
9 March	Chiltern Hotel, Luton, LU4 9RU	10am to 12.30pm 6.30pm to 9pm

If you're not able to make any of the above events, we would still like to hear your views, which you can provide in any of the following ways:

- **Online** – complete the online feedback survey through www.blmkstp.co.uk
- **By post** – you can print off a hard copy feedback form at www.blmkstp.co.uk and post it to us, or send a letter to Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes STP, Milton Keynes University Hospital, H8 Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD
- **Email us** at communications@mkuh.nhs.uk
- **Call us** on 01908 996217

The deadline for sending us your feedback is 31 March 2017

More information

Website

www.blmkstp.co.uk



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² March 2017 BLMK STP Discussion Paper "Seeking your views on transforming care in Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes", available at www.blmkstp.co.uk