

NHS Rotherham CCG Governing Body – November 2021

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Lead Director:	Chris Edwards	Lead Officer:	n/a
Job Title:	CCG Chief Officer	Job Title:	n/a

Purpose

This report informs the Governing Body about national/local developments in the past month.

GB in January – Date Change

To note GB will be held on the 12th January not the 5th as the usual plan. Mrs wheatley has kindly agreed to move the Primary Care Committee to accommodate and diary invites have been send out for the new date.

Additional Community Occupational Therapy Resource

Rotherham Community Occupational Therapy (COT) Service is a jointly commissioned service between Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) provided by The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT). The funding for the COT service is from Better Care Fund (BCF) funding under a Section 75 agreement between CCG and RMBC, with the CCG as lead commissioners.

The current funding for this contract is £787,560 for 2021/22. RMBC and CCG will pay £393,780 towards this (50/50 split).

The majority of the Occupational Therapists and OT Assistant Practitioners/Assessment Officers (OTAO) are employed by TRFT with three essential members of the team employed directly by Adult Social Care.

The COT Service currently works in four teams, these being North, South, Central and First Contact. There is also a part time OT within the Young Adults Transitional Team included in the figures below. The waiting times to assessment for the service has been gradually increasing over the past 5 years but has been further impacted upon by the Covid 19 pandemic. Whilst demand has increased, particularly for more complex assessments that take multiple visits, the service has diversified and is providing services that were not originally commissioned. An example of this is support to supported living projects to assess for appropriate placements.

It was recommended and agreed by OE, the Better Care Fund Operational Executive/Executieve and RMBC's Directorate Leadership Team to a two phased approach to the current COT service offer.

Phase 1 - the employment of a permanent Band 6 Occupational Therapist to ensure the COT Service can continue to support the new areas of additional work and ensure a good customer experience when approaching the Service for support. The funding has been identified within the CCG allocation to the Better Care Fund (BCF) from savings made on another contract which has been decommissioned. The annual value is £60,000.

Phase 2 – review the COT provision to ensure the Service is strategically aligned and to ensure best use is made of the OT Service resource. Further recommendations may be brought for consideration when the review is completed.to fund an additional 1x fte Occupational Therapist

Commissioning a SY ICS Suicide Bereavement Service

On 03 September 2021 Operational Executive gave support to the proposal to re-commission the Amparo Service - a support service for those exposed to, affected by or bereaved by suicide across Rotherham, Doncaster, Sheffield, and Barnsley. Rotherham CCG acts as the lead commissioner for this service on behalf of Public Health Leads. The invitation to quote was issued on 08 September 2021 with a closing date of 08 October 2021. The outcome of the evaluation of submissions will be subject to a standstill period but it is hoped that an NHS Standard (short form) Contract will be awarded in early November 2021 for a February 2022 start date.

Teledermatology

Teledermatology involves the taking of an image within a GP practice or in some circumstances using a smart phone and then transferring the image via a safe portal to a consultant led service for review. In 80% of cases, the condition can be diagnosed from the image and appropriate advice given. Within Rotherham, we have been piloting teledermatology and extended the pilot during 2020/21 as we provided alternative access arrangements. The pilot has been extremely successful and we are therefore moving to procure a more substantive service from 1 April 2022.

Contract with Voluntary Action Rotherham (VAR)

We contract with VAR as a partner organisation to provide the management of Rotherham's award winning social prescribing service. The contract with VAR is a 3 year contract with an option to extend for a further 1 + 1 year(s). We are coming to the end of the first section, the 3 years, in March. Due to the close down of the CCG and transition to ICS, Operational Executive supported the proposal to extend the VAR contract for the remaining 2 years from April 2022. To enable continuity in what may be an uncertain period for CCG/ICB contracts until 2024. This was discussed with AQuA yesterday who were assured by the presented paper.

Robotic Process Automation (RPA) Pilot in General Practice

The CCG will be using money awarded from the Digital Primary Care fund to carry out a pilot of Robotic Process Automation (RPA) in general practice. RPA provides the ability to automate tasks which are high volume, repetitive and/or labour intensive, and we expect that using this technology will enable us to digitally automate the execution of many routine admin and clinical tasks that are carried out in general practice. Our pilot, which will be supported by the Royal Free London Innovation and Intelligent Automation Centre of Excellence, will focus on the automation of the process for the collection, return and validation of enhanced service reporting between general practices and the CCG. During the RPA pilot we will be working with representatives across general practice to identify a prioritised pipeline for future automations, which we will progress following completion of the pilot.

SYB Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) On Call Test

In line with NHS England Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response Framework <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/epr-r-framework.pdf> the CCG has a requirement to "exercise" its EPRR arrangements. Under section 10.4.1 it states: Communications exercise Minimum frequency – every six months. These exercises are to test the ability of the organisation to contact key staff and other NHS and partner organisations, 24/7. They should include testing telephone, email, paging and other communications methods in use. The communications exercise should be conducted both during the in-hours period and the out-of-hours period on a rotational basis and should be unannounced.

The on call test was carried out on Tuesday 28th September 2021 at 18:30 hrs.

- The test was unannounced.
- TRFT switchboard was contacted.
- TRFT understood the request to be connected to the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw CCG On Call Officer.
- TRFT correctly identified the on call officer and connected.
- The on call officer answered the call

There was an issue with the time it took TRFT to answer the call to switchboard which has been raised with TRFT and is being investigated.

Lung Health Checks

We are very pleased to have been informed that Rotherham, Barnsley and Bassetlaw have been successful in their application to implement targeted lung health checks commencing during 2022. The lung health check programme targets those at most risk from lung cancer with the ambition to diagnose earlier. The programme is already in place in Doncaster with more lung cancer diagnosis and also other incidental findings being achieved.

Procurement of Rotherham Safe Space

On 15 September 2021, Operational Executive gave support to procure an alternative to crisis service, Rotherham Safe Space, in line with the NHS Long Term Plan. The Service will provide a non-medical model of peer support for those who are experiencing emotional distress and deliver lower level psychological interventions and diversionary/exploratory activities that will promote solutions and positive outcomes. It is anticipated that the procurement exercise will commence in late October 2021 with a view to mobilisation in February 2022.

Care Home Remote Monitoring and Referral Pilot

The CCG is leading an AHSN funded pilot for remote monitoring and referral in nine care homes across the Borough, to allow care home staff to make electronic referrals directly to local NHS services. The pilot will see each of the participating care homes provided with the equipment to enable their staff to carry out remote observations such as blood pressure, oxygen saturation and temperature, whilst also providing details of their concerns. The observation data is captured in a simple app and can then be transferred to the TRFT Care Home Liaison Team so that they can assess the client through a high quality electronic referral. If the pilot is evaluated as successful, the solution will be offered to additional care homes.

Communications Update

- The Rotherham health and care winter communications plan has commenced. Managing this sustained pressure and the on-going impact of COVID-19 is a key element of our campaign in Rotherham for 2021/22. To supplement our activity, we will also share messages and materials for the national winter campaign under 'Help Us to Help You'.
- There have been a number of recent media articles covering COVID vaccinations, system pressures and individual patient stories. We have worked with the Rotherham Advertiser to provide regular updates from our Executive leads and clinicians.
- We continue to develop the Rotherhive website to provide updated mental health and wellbeing information, support and advice for adults in Rotherham. Recent data shows that the site has received over 73,000 visits with 44,000 being unique visitors. The most popular pages include

mental health, alcohol, bereavement and debt. The most recent development is a 'Working Well' section, which provides support to strengthen self-care and wellbeing in the workplace.

- We are working with our local partners to implement an anxiety campaign. The campaign raises awareness of what anxiety is, how people can manage any anxiety they are experiencing and also provides information on the help and support available across Rotherham. The campaign is an all-age campaign from children and older people.