

West Midlands Primary Care Workforce and Improved Patient Access Plan

Shropshire and Staffordshire

Number of patients covered: 354,000

Number of practices participating: 37

Names of CCGs covered: Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Stafford & Surrounds

Summary of scheme's work

- Create a workforce to support the delivery of extended access services and opening hours
- Through partnerships with universities, develop a workforce to support GPs maintain list based primary care
- Looking at new technologies to securely share data, work smarter and improve patient access
- Looking at establishing new pathways for specialities including Dementia, Frail Elderly and Physiotherapy
- Setting up Acute Visiting Service to support GPs to be able to focus on practice based

Our top two areas of progress and one area of challenge are:

Progress One:

We have established a project team to draw together multiple existing educational streams across HEE, Universities and other national training bodies

The streams have been identified and work commenced to tailor the curricula to Primary Care requirements. The new curricula will be launched in the next four months with recruitment to training shortly after

A parallel development of Urgent Care Practitioner to support the Acute Visiting Service has completed HR requirements and is out to staff consultation

Progress Two:

IT infrastructure is in place with testing nearing completion across all localities

Significant progress with Information Sharing Agreements

Exploration of established electronic media to allow for virtual consultations being undertaken before final strategy confirmed

Challenge:

HR developments to develop a multidisciplinary workforce are complex

Professional accreditation and licensing requirements for innovative posts require further negotiation

Skill matching exercise for innovative posts ongoing but will take time due to number of staff involved

Clinical indemnity insurance – clinical and corporate governance requirements have been agreed for most roles but the cost is unresolved