

Questions to the OCCG Board Meeting – 29 November 2018

Question submitted by email:

After 20 years' of living with Chronic Fatigue\ME my wife is now close to a complete cure thanks to working with a programme from a company called "The Chrysalis Effect". At a meeting in October they explained how they are rolling out this programme to GPs, and I was wondering if there are any GPs in Oxfordshire working with this programme? It has the combined benefits of actually curing the problem and saving the NHS the cost of the anti-depressant drugs which are the standard intervention, sometimes over many years.

The CCG do not currently commission the Chrysalis effect as currently we have a contract with Oxford Health and OUH to provide Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) services aligned to NICE guidance. We are not aware of any Oxfordshire GPs actively working with The Chrysalis Effect.

Question asked at the Board meeting on 29 November 2018:

Barry Finch thanked the Board for accepting his point regarding access to public papers especially their availability at County Hall and queried what progress had been made in making these documents available. He referred to the Action Tracker and asked if an answer to the question around Wantage hospital and legionella could be given at this point or the Wantage people kept up to date on the situation. Mr Finch had read Paper 68, the development of the strategy for the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and commented on the mix of capitals and lower case, which was poor English, and the need to make sure papers were laid out and printed to enable people to read them. He explained about the difficulty for those with poor sight and if colours needed to be used they should be pastel as these were more readable. With regard to the Integrated Care System (ICS) he queried how members of the public would have the opportunity to input pointing out those who did not have a computer and were not online would be disenfranchised.

The Chief Operating Officer advised the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (OHFT) Chief Executive had reported on Wantage Hospital and legionnaire's disease in his Board report – a copy would be sent to Mr Finch. She explained the decision at Wantage Hospital was based on how the rehabilitation ward would be affected. OHFT had undertaken a risk assessment. There was a particular number of older patients and there would be difficulties in moving them quickly should there be a risk. Other areas of the Hospital were able to remain open as they were not affected by the same risks.

The Chief Executive noted the points around making available in different formats information on the ICS and explained the ICS was systems working together in a more efficient and effective way and not a new organisation.

Arrangements had been made with the Facilities Team at County Hall for OCCG Board papers to be available in County Hall Reception. With regard to making papers available in libraries, OCCG has been advised that Oxfordshire County Library is the only appropriate library where the Board papers could be held. Due to the available space within the library a notice would be displayed on a notice board and staff would fetch the papers upon request. This arrangement would commence from the January 2019 meeting.