



Work takes place to explore Pathology Network requirements

In September 2017 NHS Improvement (NHSI) published requirements around the development of 29 pathology networks across the NHS. They have looked into pathology services across the UK and believe that implementing the 29 networks will provide high quality, rapid and comprehensive diagnostic services for patients, which are delivered in the most efficient manner; and that this will facilitate the introduction of, and widest access to, new investigations and diagnostic systems, and improve

Progress on work to help shape hospital services

During the last few months of 2017, the work to help shape hospital services has conducted 15 Clinical Working Groups (which are made up of clinicians from each service within each of the hospitals) and five public engagement events (in addition to an online survey, work with seldom heard groups and staff drop-in sessions in Trusts).

future training and career development for scientific and technical staff.

All hospitals have been asked to look at the way services are delivered with this in mind to ensure they are safe and sustainable. Reference Groups for blood sciences, microbiology and cellular pathology have been established to explore how best a South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw network would work in a hub and spoke model.

Once the validation of the data, and reference group conversations are complete the options will be considered by each Trust to ensure that the recommendations are supported by all of the partner organisations.

There is already a strong partnership across South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Trusts, and the Pathology Steering Group, which is attended by Clinical Directors and Service Managers, has been in place for some time. The Group is Chaired by Richard Parker (CEO - Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals FT) with Medical Director Sponsorship from David Throssell (Medical Director – Sheffield Teaching Hospitals FT).

Public and staff engagement activity continues to take place in January and will continue to be incorporated into the work of the review team.

The team will be developing non-site-specific proposed options and modelling them in February and running them against the evaluation criteria (to which the public have previously contributed) in early March. Equality Impact Assessments will be developed alongside each proposed model. A number of further events will take place in early March to look at the proposed options and get public opinion on these.

Radiology Event to seek staff input into developing plans for the future

The radiology workstream continues to evolve their plans at pace, and a

Committees in Common

After many months of planning and acquiring agreement from all Trust boards, the first

radiology strategy event will be taking place on Thursday 25 January, at the New York Stadium in Rotherham. The event is intended to provide an opportunity for senior radiology teams, Trust Medical Directors, ACS work stream leads and clinical commissioners to discuss radiology services - locally, regionally and nationally - and will provide attendees with the chance to influence the development of regional strategies for the service.

Discussions will take place on:

- How we retain and develop our existing workforce alongside training and recruiting to new kinds of roles to support radiology
- Opportunities for more networked ways of working, and;
- The use of technology in supporting new ways of working

There will also be presentations from NHS Improvement and other speakers during the day.

If you are interested in attending please contact James Scott:
james.scott11@nhs.net

Committees in Common meeting has taken place on the 4th December.

The Committees in Common Structure allows NHS Foundation Trusts and NHS Trusts to establish their own committees, which all meet with the same remit and common agenda and with identical membership. Each committee can only make a decision in relation to its own organisation but the decisions can be coordinated. Trusts are able to delegate to committees in common.

Partners agreed to the change in early 2017 and believe it a potential way to support a faster paced decision making process for the partnership.

For more information about the Working Together Partnership contact

Katy.davison@nhs.net



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