



## Planning for the future: BSW looks ahead to next five years

Health and care leaders across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire will be looking to how to shape future health and care needs across the region by starting work on a new five year plan over the coming months.

The plan, which will be delivered in the summer of 2019, will look to set out a broad strategy on how local services will be run over the next five years, using the resources available.



BSW has been asked to produce the plan alongside every other STP in England by NHS England Chief Executive Simon Stevens. In a letter sent to health leaders across the country, Stevens highlighted how the plan will need to be developed through engagement with all parts of the STP and will need to provide “robust and credible solutions for the challenges faced in caring for local populations over the next five years.”

BSW’s plan will also reflect the strategic direction for the NHS which will be laid out in a forthcoming long-term plan which is expected to highlight the importance of prevention in the future of health and care provision.

BSW Senior Responsible Officer Tracey Cox said the creation of the new plan presented a great opportunity.

“BSW is looking with confidence and ambition to the future. Producing this new five year plan presents us with a great opportunity to set out our vision and show, through working in a more collaborative and joined up way, we can all work together to improve health and wellbeing, drive up the quality of the services we provide and deliver value for money.”

## Inside this issue of **STOP PRESS**:

*Transforming maternity services across BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire*

*New Chair and Vice Chair appointed to BSW Sponsoring Board*

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## Transforming maternity services together – have your say



Mums, dads and families in BaNES, Wiltshire and Swindon are being asked for their views on proposals to improve maternity services across the region.

The proposals have been put forward by local health leaders following a two year period of working with over 2000 women and families, staff and partners to look at how and where improvements can be made.

Specifically, maternity service leaders want to

provide more equal access to the different birthing options available to women, improve personalised care and provide better continuity of care to improve the relationship between mother, family and midwife.

The proposed improvements would also look to boost community support to provide targeted care close to home and integrated care regardless of where and how women choose to give birth.

But health leaders have said the improvements can only happen if changes are made to the way maternity services are currently provided.

While the proposals do not include any plans to reduce spending on maternity services, cut staff or close buildings, they do allow for more efficient use of existing budgets, resources and staff to provide more services, not less for women and families across the BSW area.

Lucy Baker, Acting Commissioning Director for Maternity, Children and Mental Health at Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group said the proposed improvements were all about

### *In focus:* what the proposals mean for services across the BSW area

- We are proposing to **continue to support births in two, rather than four, of our community freestanding midwifery units (FMUs)**. Women will be able to deliver their baby in Chippenham FMU and Frome FMU, and antenatal and postnatal clinics will continue to be provided in all four – at Chippenham, Frome, Paulton and Trowbridge.
- We're proposing to create **two new alongside midwife-led units**, one at Salisbury District Hospital and one at the Royal United Hospital Bath, which

will provide more women with the opportunity to have a midwife-led birth. These two units will be in addition to the White Horse midwife-led unit that already exists at the Great Western Hospital in Swindon.

- We're proposing to improve our range of antenatal and postnatal services for example by providing more breastfeeding support to women in their own homes. We also want to support more women to give birth at

### Tell us what you think!

Public consultation on BSW's maternity transformation proposals takes place between now and **24 February 2019**, so it's important to let us know what you think as soon as possible.

You can do this by:

- Filling in a survey at [www.transformingmaternity.org.uk](http://www.transformingmaternity.org.uk)
- Asking us for a hard copy of the survey by calling **01380 736026** or emailing [maternity.transformationbsw@nhs.net](mailto:maternity.transformationbsw@nhs.net)
- We're also planning consultation events across the BSW region. Find out more about these at [www.transformingmaternity.org.uk](http://www.transformingmaternity.org.uk)

providing more choice and making better use of existing resources.

"By using what we have available to us differently, we can make sure our maternity services can meet the needs of women and their families and provide staff with a great place to work, now and in the future.

These proposals will allow us to offer more choice of place of birth and make sure we have the right resources in the right place at the right time."

home if this is their preferred choice.

- We're proposing to **replace our nine community postnatal beds (four at Chippenham and five at Paulton FMUs)** with support closer to or in women's homes. Women who need to be admitted for medical treatment after giving birth would be treated in their local obstetric unit at one of our acute hospitals in Bath, Salisbury and Swindon.

## New Chair and Vice chair appointed

BSW has made some key appointments to the board that oversees the smooth running of the STP and assures delivery of its key programmes of work.

Councillor Jerry Wickham takes up the position of Chair of the STP Sponsorship Board. Councillor Wickham is a Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Public Protection on Wiltshire Council.

The position of Vice Chair has been taken by Dr Richard Sandford-Hill. Dr Sandford-Hill is a GP and senior partner at the Market Lavington Surgery in Wiltshire and Chair of Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Speaking about his appointment, Councillor Wickham said he was delighted to be taking up the position.

"Health and social care providers across B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire are already working in a much more joined up way than ever before and BSW is playing a central role in enabling that to happen. I'm proud to be taking a key position and look forward to contributing to a really exciting period of change for the way health and care is delivered across the region and in particular ensuring that the promotion of healthy living and preventing ill health, becomes a central part of our work."



*Chair and Vice Chair: Councillor Jerry Wickham (left) and Dr Richard Sandford-Hill*



## Developing BSW's Health and Care Model

Clinical leaders from across B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire came together at a key strategic meeting in Bath recently to have their say about how integrated health and care will work across the region in the future.

Drawn from a range of backgrounds including nursing, physiotherapy, general practice, acute care, social care, mental health and community health, over 45 clinicians gave up their time to share their views and participate in the exciting steps towards the creation of a clinical strategy for BSW STP.

The clinicians spent the afternoon discussing how care could be delivered across BSW, with a strong focus on the frail elderly and end of life care.

Dame Angela Pedder, who is acting as a strategic advisor to the STP, said the new integrated care model addressed a number of growing problems currently facing BSW related to our ageing population.

“In modern day health care, hospital is no longer the first choice for care. Instead services should focus on supporting people to stay as well as possible, for as long as possible – helping them to remain independent in their own communities. Only where there are good clinical reasons should people travel to hospital for treatment.”

Clinicians attending the event agreed the need to move care out of hospital and into people's homes.

They also agreed the need to strengthen the broad focus of care across BSW so people who are frail and at risk of being admitted to hospital are assessed as early as possible, so a care plan can be put in place to keep them independent.

Development of the strategy continues and progress will be reported in future issues of *STOP PRESS*.

## Tell us what you think!

*We always value feedback from the people who matter: you! Get in touch with us today and let us know how you feel about the work of your STP.*

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