

Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 06 September 2022

Subject: Proposals for the future of the Rowans Surgery

Lead officer: Mark Creelman, Executive Director, NHS South West London

Contact officer: Katharine Bugler, Deputy Director for Primary Care, NHS South West London

Recommendations:

- A. After considering all the options, NHS South West London is proposing to close the practice and ask that patients register with another practice of their choosing, where they will receive a better quality and more consistent service offer. All patients would be fully supported in making this move.
 - B. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to share their views on this proposal, giving consideration to what extra support could be offered to patients, as well as any alternative solutions we might not have considered.
-

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. The current GP Partners and Managing Partner who run the Rowans Surgery hold a contract with NHS South West London which is due to end on 31 October 2022. This means that important decisions need to be made very soon about how GP services are provided.
- 1.2. Discussions have been ongoing for a number of years about the challenges facing the Rowans – particularly related to the premises and staffing. If services continue to be provided from the Rowans Surgery, we are concerned that these issues will impact on patient safety and the quality of care delivered.
- 1.3. After considering all the options, NHS South West London is proposing to close the practice and ask that patients register with another practice of their choosing. All patients would be fully supported in making this move.
- 1.4. A final decision is needed in the next few weeks in order to ensure this dispersal process can be managed effectively.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. Please see slide pack attached covering: What are the challenges? What options have we considered? What are we proposing to do? Is there capacity at local practices? How will patients be supported? What are the longer term plans? What are the next steps?

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. Extend the contract – *This is not an option*. The current Partners (East Merton Primary Care Network) have confirmed they will not agree a contract extension beyond 31st October 2022. They can not continue to deliver the contract without impacting service delivery at their own practices.

3.2. Procure a new provider – *This is not an option*. The list size is only 5000 patients and therefore the contract will not be attractive to bidders. Any new provider will be subject to the same premises and recruitment issues as the preceding four sets of Partners.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1. Over the coming weeks we will be seeking views on this proposal - the impact, what extra support could be offered, as well as any alternative solutions we might not have considered.

4.2. Patients registered at the practice have been written to and invited to join one of a series of engagement events where we can share more information and answer questions.

4.3. Events have been advertised on the NHS SWL, practice and surrounding practice websites. We're also reaching out to local community organisations who support people who might be impacted.

5 TIMETABLE

5.1. Engagement on proposals – early September 2022

5.2. Decision by South West London Primary Care Contracting Group – mid September 2022

5.3. Patients informed of decision and supported to re-register – September and October 2022

5.4. Practice close down processes – October 2022

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1. None

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. NHS South West London are the statutory body responsible for decision making on this matter.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

8.1. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1. None

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1. N/A

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

11.1. Proposals for the future of the Rowans Surgery – Slide Pack

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1. N/A