Primary Care Strategy

Working together for better health
Thriving and progressive general practice with patients at its heart

Our vision for this strategy
“Tough times never last, but tough people do” quoted Robert Schuller. He had nothing to do with primary care but I like the quote.

I think we can all agree that general practice is under pressure from a number of angles at the moment. We have dwindling resources (money), inequity in provision (for various reasons), recruitment and retention issues and a never-ending surge of demand from an ageing population with multiple conditions. We have politicians telling us to work seven days and providers buckling under pressure which ends up causing us more work. That brings me to another quote, from Albert Einstein, "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results".

If we want to continue to serve our patients and give them a high quality, timely service then we have to do things differently and we have to be tough. Our CCG is passionate about primary care, especially general practice. From April 2016, we took on full delegation and we need to make bold decisions to transform our primary care system. This strategy has been developed through extensive engagement with our patients, practices, federations and other stakeholders. They have told us the ‘what’ and the ‘how’ we should be changing. The ‘when’ is the next five years.

General practice cannot undertake this transformation in isolation. We need to work with other primary care colleagues and allied providers such as the local authority. Let’s not forget the patients too - they will need to play their part in ensuring the future sustainability of general practice.

I hope we can all own this strategy and use it to inform our decision making over the coming years. The CCG will do all it can to see it come to fruition but we need our member practices to make it happen.
Case for change

Why do we need a primary care strategy?

The central facets of general practice have not changed greatly since the inception of the NHS; whereas other parts of the NHS have seen large-scale change, this has not happened in general practice in the same way. What is clear is that the ‘ask’ of primary care, and specifically of general practice, has changed. Primary care has had to take on more responsibility, complexity and roles, often acting as the default provider of all services not seen as within the remit of other services. This has been within the context of growing demand through changing demographics with patients living longer with multiple co-morbidities.

The NHS is facing a challenge as in no other time. The Five Year Forward View makes the case for change nationally, with £22 billion of savings expected to be made by 2020. The vision is that new models of care will be developed to deliver this, within which primary care will be central.

The challenge that we face locally and nationally to deliver these new models of care are demand, access, workforce, technology, finance and estates, especially with the national aspiration to seven day working.

The CCG recognises these challenges and the potential impact it has on the local health economy and community. In order to prepare for these changes we have been developing strategies for primary, secondary and community health services.

From 1 April 2016 Greater Huddersfield Clinical Commissioning Group (GHCCG) received full delegation to commission general medical services. In real terms this means that the CCG will gain much more influence to shape commissioning locally to support the needs of our population. This will enable us to work with local practices and stakeholders to develop ways of working and the better use of resources so that they will best meet the needs of our patients. This could involve reinvesting the funding from Directed Enhanced Services (DES), locally agreed practice based services and even aspects of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) into more appropriate, targeted schemes. To achieve this we have and will continue to seek input and involvement from local practices and other stakeholders so that the service that we develop together will work for patients and practices alike.

This strategy will focus on general practice with a view to working with wider primary care and other stakeholders as key partners in development and implementation.
What does this mean on the ground?

Through sessions we’ve done over the last 12-18 months, member practices have already told us that doing nothing isn’t an option. Doing nothing will mean that:

- The service will become more reactive to crisis management;
- There will be an increase in variation;
- There will be a decrease in patient safety and quality;
- Increase in costs (utilisation of locums etc.);
- Increased pressure to the rest of the health care system – particularly secondary care;
- Increase in loss of GPs and practice staff; and
- Practice closures.

In Greater Huddersfield, the impact of this has already been seen with practices closing and merging, and positive steps have been made by practices in forming federations which enables collaborative working and strengthens the voice of primary care as providers of services. One example to date of successful collaboration amongst practices has been the development of the anti-coagulation service.

Authoritative sources such as the British Medical Association (BMA), the Kings Fund and Nuffield Trust have all reiterated that there needs to be a new model for primary care and that delivery of services on a bigger level ‘primary care at scale’ is the way to do this either through networks, federations or large super practices. Another fundamental is the delivery of care in partnership and integrated with other services. The Care Closer to Home (CC2H) model in Greater Huddersfield has strengthened the approach to delivering services to people in the community but fundamental to the success of this model is integration of primary care with community services. The workforce is finite, so to maximise resources, we will need to work collaboratively and breakdown traditional boundaries between general practice, secondary care, community services, social care, voluntary and community sector and community pharmacy to recognise a patient’s physical, social and mental health needs.
Enablers

Technology has rapidly developed and is a significant part of our everyday lives. This is expanding into the delivery of health and social care but often in small pockets and limited to certain services. Barriers of different systems and information governance have led to a lack of information sharing to support patient care which needs to be considered and addressed. Working in an integrated way and at scale cannot be fulfilled without easy, secure access to the appropriate patient information held within clinical systems.

We recognise that the workforce challenge is felt keenly across all services and particularly in general practice. A lack of GP trainees, an ageing workforce and the challenges of being a clinician and a business owner pose difficult challenges for the profession.

As a General Practitioner, it is one of, if not the only business model where the chief executive is also the shop floor worker. As the pressures rise in terms of funding (the business) and clinically (as a medical practitioner) the profession is becoming a less desirable one. It is time to identify new roles, allow GPs to deal with the level of complexity they are trained to manage and utilise other practitioners with the skills to assess, diagnose and treat patients with certain conditions where appropriate. GPs will become the clinical leaders or ‘primary care consultants’ of their organisations much as consultants lead multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) in secondary care.

Estates is another important enabler to the delivery of a new model of primary care, we have some knowledge about the estate in primary care and this is currently being reviewed and updated. We know that much of the estate is not fit to deliver services now and is limiting the potential of delivering new and advanced services in a primary care setting and in some cases even putting a barrier in place to delivering core services.
How we developed the strategy

As the strategy is centred around general practice and making it fit for a sustainable future, we established a programme structure to support the development of the strategy. This incorporated representatives of the CCG, both federations and the Local Medical Committee (LMC) at Programme Board and working group level. Based on the key areas of challenge and need for development, we established small groups to look at the areas listed on the right.

These groups met regularly during the development of the strategy to shape the content and consider and incorporate themes from the feedback from our engagement activities.

How stakeholder engagement has shaped our strategy

Patients and public

Locally, we have proactively gathered patient and public views about primary care and the wider health and care system through a number of exercises (a full list can be found at Appendix 2). This information has been used to inform the development of this strategy. Some of the key messages that patients and public told us were:

- There needs to be better access to information and advice and better communication through a variety of channels.
- Need for better working with other professionals including better knowledge of local voluntary sector and community groups.
- Continuity of care is important when the patient has a long-term condition or ongoing need but for one-off needs, patients are happy to see any available clinician.
- Better access to GP appointments.
- Wider range of services and professionals within practices is desirable.
- General practice should provide localised services.
- There is an appetite to expand the use of online booking, Skype and telephone consultations, email and text reminders.
- We need to enable patients to care for themselves.
**Practice membership**

Engagement with, and gaining feedback from, the wider practice membership has been crucial to developing the right strategy for the future which is achievable, sustainable, evidenced and outcome based. Each group considered the feedback that had already been shared over the last 12-18 months through various exercises and meetings such as Practice Protected Time and the Business Meeting. This was reflected on in developing the proposals for each area.

Further specific engagement exercises were undertaken and feedback has been incorporated into this strategy (included at Appendix 2).

**Wider stakeholders**

In addition, we held a session with wider stakeholders to discuss the development of the strategy and where there are interdependencies with primary care within their transformation plans. This supported identifying which areas we need to work on collectively and is reflected within the strategy.

A summary of all the engagement information utilised and the events and sessions held can be found at Appendix 2.
Vision

*Our vision for this strategy is to create:*

‘ Thriving and progressive general practice with patients at its heart ’

*Our mission is all about:*

- Patients being able to make appropriate choices and responsible decisions about their health and wellbeing.
- Patients being able to expect a high standard and consistent range of primary medical services from every GP practice.
- Primary care as a cornerstone of an integrated system of ‘out of hospital’ care.
- Primary care accessible to patients seven days a week.
- An ‘enhanced’ level of service accessible to all patients as part of our Care Closer to Home model.
- Strong and innovative workforce design and use of modern technology.
- Education and training opportunities that cultivate professional excellence and high motivation.
- A culture which promotes openness, transparency and the ability to make mistakes in a supportive and learning environment.
- General practice at the heart of the health and social care system working collectively with partners and the wider community.
- Greater Huddersfield being *the* place clinicians choose to work.
Relationships

Strong relationships are fundamental to the success of this strategy. There is a shared intention to break down traditional silo working and foster effective partnerships. Relationship building is being encouraged and enabled across the health and social care system and local communities.

Through talking to our health and social care partners, we have identified examples of good integrated working, driven by the need to change and work differently to improve patient outcomes and system efficiency. Looking beyond the usual links between community services and secondary care, there is tremendous scope to work with the large numbers of voluntary/third sector organisations, community pharmacy (60 pharmacies in the Greater Huddersfield area), social care, and our ‘out of hours’ provider (Local Care Direct).

Opportunities to engage local schools and businesses in the promotion of health and wellbeing will champion healthy lifestyle awareness and ill health prevention, with potential to tailor for particular communities and community groups.

Whilst this strategy is focused on general practice, it is being progressed in the context of a much wider primary care service across Greater Huddersfield. Strong messages from our partners signal a shift towards an improved local system:

- We are keen to be involved early in the design phase when changing services.
- There are huge opportunities to reduce inefficiency and duplication by working together and differently.
- We need to work together to manage the workforce challenge, making sure patients are seen by the right person in the right place (with new opportunities to work with the VCS and community pharmacy).
- Improvement in communication channels will make a huge difference and allow us to work together.
Outcomes and measuring success

During the design of Care Closer to Home, which places primary care at the heart of community services, we worked with groups of patients and service users to understand the outcomes most important to them.

These outcomes provide the framework for the primary care strategy and measuring success. Whilst the outcomes translate across services, there are some particular priorities for primary care. These are identified in the following table.

Table 1 - patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Primary care priority</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I’m seen at the right time by the right person</td>
<td>All patients are able to get same day access for urgent needs</td>
<td>Percentage of patients with an urgent need receiving same day access / consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More of my care happens nearer to home</td>
<td>Unplanned hospital admissions</td>
<td>Unplanned admissions (primary care dashboard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More planned services delivered in a primary care setting</td>
<td>Percentage of patients accessing planned services in primary care setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My carers and I know how to manage my health and wellbeing</td>
<td>Care planning for patients with a long term condition (LTC)</td>
<td>Percentage of patients with an emergency care plan to manage exacerbation of their LTC(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All patients understand how to keep themselves healthy</td>
<td>Uptake of vaccinations and immunisations and screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone involved in my care knows my story</td>
<td>Improve communication and co-ordination between professionals and carers involved in a patient’s care</td>
<td>For patients with a long term condition, Care Plans are reviewed by a MDT at least twice a year or more frequently as required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strategy outcomes

In addition to improving outcomes for patients, there are some key outcomes which will also help us to measure the success of our strategy. The key priorities are identified in the table below.

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Measure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workforce</td>
<td>A strong resilient workforce</td>
<td>Staff survey (satisfaction levels)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vacancy levels in practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Access to information through technology for clinicians and patients alike</td>
<td>Percentage of patients booking appointments online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of patients with access to, and viewing, their electronic record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estates</td>
<td>Multi-purpose community facilities delivering comprehensive services to patients</td>
<td>Patient survey (satisfaction levels with premises)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Core offer

We know from talking to patients and professionals that there is still inequity of service provision for core GP services. In order to create sustainable general practice for the future, we need to create and implement some core standards and principles that patients are able to understand.

The GMS contract provides an outline of the core services all practices are expected to deliver but does not identify standards in detail which has led to differing interpretation of what is ‘reasonable’. In defining the core offer, the CCG is not seeking to expand the core offer, rather provide a local agreed interpretation of those areas not defined in the GMS contract.

Some of the key principles and standards include:

- Promote self-management and patient education with patients.
- Minimum scheduled appointment time for a routine GP appointment will be ten minutes – this should support preventative and person-centred approaches.
- Continuity of care where possible for both patients and clinicians.
- All patients with an identified long-term condition (see Appendix 3 for full list) will have a mutually agreed care plan in place where a patient agrees to take part in developing the care plan.
- Personal development and an active appraisal system for staff will be provided by the practice.
- Patient experience and feedback should be sought and acted upon.
- All practices will have an effective patient reference group.

A full list of the key standards and principles can be found at Appendix 3.
One of the most prevalent issues facing patients in primary care is the inequity of access to services. We know that the impact of this is to put pressure on other parts of the system, when patients cannot access a timely appointment within primary care, they are more likely to seek alternatives such as out of hours GP and attending local A&E services when their need would have been much better met by their local GP service.

In order to try to bring some consistency to access and provision of information, the following key requirements and standards have been identified as part of the core offer (a full list can be found at Appendix 3):

- Every practice should ensure clinical advice is available for all their registered patients from 8.00am to 6.30pm.
- Access to same day requests, where appropriate, must be available and addressed for patients contacting the practice between 8.30am and 6.00pm on that day (this will be access to an appropriate clinician but will not necessarily mean a face-to-face appointment).
- Online access should be available and actively promoted for appointments and prescriptions.
- All practices must offer telephone consultation / appointments.
- All practices must have a regularly updated website with information sources for patients to access.
- Unplanned routine appointments, for back pain or a minor infection for example, will be provided within five working days (this is with an appropriate clinician as determined by the practice).
- Planned routine appointments such as reviews are not subject to minimum timescales and should be made as appropriate for the individual patient.
- All practices will enable, and promote to their patients, electronic access to their records (Patients Online).

**Case study - self-management of coeliac disease**

An increasing number of people are being diagnosed with coeliac disease. For people who are diagnosed; knowing how to keep themselves healthy with the right food choices is an important issue.

Greater Huddersfield CCG worked with the Coeliac Society and students from Huddersfield University to produce podcasts which support people who are newly diagnosed to make the choices that are best for their health. By filming in local supermarkets and restaurants, the choices available were easy to demonstrate in a format that was simple and reassuring.

This is one example of using technology to support people to learn more about how to look after their health.
**Funding**

Core services are those which are defined within the GMS contract and will therefore be delivered through the payment made through the core contract, based on the registered list.

**Support mechanisms**

Whilst the CCG is able to influence locally decisions about the commissioning of primary care through full delegation from April 2016, it will not have the power to change or enforce breaches of the national GMS contract.

However, it is fundamental that all practices meet the core requirements over the lifetime of the strategy to ensure that patients get the services they need. Some practices have demonstrated and told us that they are already fulfilling all of these requirements and meeting these standards. But we know that this is not the case for all practices and as such, the CCG will support these practices to meet the standards through the provision of:

- Learning and best practice from other practices and projects such as Breaking the Cycle.
- Toolkit and resources.
- Hands-on support from personnel within the CCG.

Local federations have told us they are committed to providing peer support to their members to drive quality of primary care within Greater Huddersfield.
Case study - patient online accelerator site

The patient’s perspective

Adam was one of the first patients to trial the use of patient online.

Adam registered as a patient at the University Practice over 20 years ago when he first attended Huddersfield University. Over the years, Adam has had regular contact with the practice. ‘Practice staff have taken good care of me and my family, from help when my partner and I had our child 11 years ago, to more regular care since I was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes three years ago.’

‘I find it much easier to book and even cancel appointments online. It’s so easy to log on via the app on my phone or on my computer and book an appointment when I need it. Ordering repeat prescriptions online also saves me a lot of time. If I realise I’m running low and the practice is closed on the Saturday, all I do is log on, request the relevant medication from the drop down list and then pick it up a few days later.’

Had these services changed the nature of his consultations with his GP? ‘Absolutely! I realise my GP’s time is precious therefore when I expect my blood test results to be in, I book an appointment for the week after. Once the result is in, I check it against past results and I check the notes of my last consultation to remind myself what was said. This results in me and my GP having a far more productive meeting as I am more prepared and I’m able to ask relevant questions.’

Would Adam recommend other patients to register for online record access? ‘I certainly would. I can see appointments and repeat prescription ordering being really useful for most patients and record access useful for those, like me, who need to have more regular contact with their GP. In fact, I’ve already signed up my partner and my 11 year old son!’

The GP’s perspective

The GP involved in the pilot, Dr Littlewood, was initially reluctant to share online test results and records with his patients but is now very much in favour.

‘At first I was quite nervous about the prospect of patients accessing information that they may not understand, or that they may find upsetting. This all changed when one of my diabetic patients signed up for access. Almost immediately, I could see a positive change. My patient started preparing ahead of his consultation by accessing his latest test results and comparing them to past results. This has meant the ten minutes we get together is very productive. Ten months down the line, I am even seeing this patient’s diabetic controls are improving.’
Core plus offer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>The core plus offer should be available to all patients on a registered list but this may be delivered through formal arrangements with other providers within the patient’s own practice.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Where are we now?</td>
<td>There is currently an inconsistency of access, provision and quality of services beyond a basic ‘core’ offer. Not all of our current enhanced schemes work for practices or provide good outcomes for patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are we trying to achieve?</td>
<td>Ensuring good access to additional services beyond the basic core offer. Ensuring that access to these services is available within a patient’s own practice and therefore equitable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>Patients in Greater Huddersfield will have equitable access to a range of additional services at their practice. This may be delivered in collaboration with other providers.</td>
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Existing enhanced services are variable in the impact they make on local populations. Practices have told us that some schemes do not benefit local patients or work for practices.

Through the opportunities afforded by holding full delegated authority for commissioning general medical services, the current local practice based services and DES schemes will be reviewed and a new ‘core plus’ offer identified which will support local priorities and benefit patients.

A list of potential core plus services can be found at Appendix 3.

**Funding**

Core plus services will come with an additional funding stream to enable delivery of these services.
The movement of planned services out of a hospital setting and into a community setting is in line with the aspirations for Care Closer to Home and as part of the acute hospital reconfiguration programme. It is intended that by 2020 the majority of tier 1-3 planned services will be delivered in a primary care setting where this is clinically appropriate, with collective working between professionals across primary, community and secondary care. Only specialist services will continue to be delivered in a hospital setting. In addition, there is opportunity to move some of these specialist services out into community with a movement of specialist staff from secondary care.

There are a number of services already delivered collaboratively and in a primary care setting, including the anti-coagulation service and the winter scheme to offer additional urgent appointments at weekends and over bank holidays working in hubs across Greater Huddersfield. A potential list of services which could be delivered in a primary care setting is included at Appendix 3. It is proposed that these are commissioned and rolled out in a phased way.

**Funding**

Advanced services will come with an allocated funding stream to deliver the service to patients in Greater Huddersfield, not to a registered list.
Workforce

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where are we now?</th>
<th>There is a national and local workforce challenge. GPs are in short supply and a large proportion of the nursing and practice management and support function workforce are approaching retirement. There are excellent staff within primary care but demand is rising, presenting a challenge to morale and retention of the current workforce.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are we trying to achieve?</td>
<td>We aim to create a sustainable, engaged workforce to deliver a new offer in primary care including supporting patients to manage their own conditions, working efficiently whilst retaining a personal service for patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>Greater Huddersfield will be seen as a place of choice to work, providing excellent opportunities to train, develop skills and for career progression for all roles, clinical and non-clinical. General practice will be driven by sustainable and efficient multi-disciplinary teams, led by GPs; ensuring patients receive high quality services delivered at the right time, by the right professional.</td>
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</table>

Our focus for workforce and workforce development is:

Training the future workforce

Engagement with practices identified that training and development opportunities are fundamental to the retention of existing staff and attracting new staff, making Huddersfield an attractive place to work. We will work with all ages of children and young people to offer work tasters and work experience within primary care and open the option of primary care as a career within a multitude of roles.

We know that attracting nursing staff in particular to primary care has been limited through the lack of pre-registration opportunities for new trainees before they undertake their training. We can quickly address this, working with Huddersfield University and local practices to offer placements and to train nursing staff and Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) within practice as mentors to provide the required mentorship for this scheme. This will in turn provide professional development for those staff trained as mentors.

Fundamental to training the current and new workforce is to deliver lifelong learning and succession planning with opportunities to develop at all levels within primary care supported by proactive talent management. Through collaborative working, there is an opportunity for clinicians with different expertise to work across practices and develop enhanced skills in specific specialisms, creating professional development opportunities for staff, a wider-range of services for patients and efficiency for practices.
GP as the ‘primary care consultant’

A fundamental shift will be the role of the GP to one of a ‘Primary Care Consultant’ acting as a hospital consultant does, coordinating a team of professionals to deliver care to patients, offering clinical leadership and oversight to the team whilst seeing the most complex patients and retaining overall accountability for the care of patients as the accountable lead clinician.

In order to facilitate this, the workforce will expand to include new roles, some of which have already successfully been piloted in Greater Huddersfield (including pharmacists and OTs) creating capacity for GPs to undertake this role and deal with the more complex clinical interventions. Some of these roles are already embedded within other services delivered by partners such as Care Closer to Home, community pharmacy and voluntary and community sector and require closer working with these services to deliver services in a smarter way and achieve better outcomes for patients, ensuring they are seen by the right person at the right time. In other areas this may be specific recruitment of new roles as alternatives to existing roles, particularly where there are recruitment pressures.

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**Case study - occupational therapists in primary care**

Is there a role for occupational therapy in primary care?

Could OT reduce the number of contacts / frequent attenders to GPs?

Working with University of Huddersfield and two local GP practices, a 70-hour project has looked at these questions. A client group was identified that met the following criteria: over 65, more than 75 GP contacts per year and anxious, isolated, with health conditions impacting on role function and independence. The pilot project found that:

- There was a clinical role for OT maximising the unique dual training in physical and mental health.
- The service was not commissioned elsewhere or duplicating with other roles as these patients' needs were not severe enough to meet the criteria for secondary care or community services.
- If OT intervention reduced these attendances by one-third over the year there would be savings to the GP practice, either directly cashable or time-releasing.
Upskilling everyone

The focus for primary care is to deliver more wide-range and complex services and manage the increasing demand for traditional services in general practice. Practices recognise locally that many services and interventions are delivered by inappropriately qualified levels of staff. For example, patients assessed by a GP who could be better seen by a nurse, Allied Health Professional or pharmacist, or patients seen by a qualified member of staff who could be seen by a Health Care Assistant with the right skills and training.

By utilising a competency framework and upskilling staff, it ensures that patients are seen by the most appropriate professional and therefore achieve the right outcomes. Capacity is created at the higher levels of qualification and professional, delivering a lower cost-base and creating time for senior clinical staff to lead, mentor and supervise the team and support personal development.

This will be supported by ensuring training and development opportunities are available for all roles and levels of staff within primary care and through working with local educational institutions to support learning throughout everyone’s career.

It is important to recognise that this approach is inclusive of the wide-range of non-clinical roles within general practice. Practices, particularly our practice managers, have articulated a vision for the future management of general practice in which back-office and administrative functions are shared across practices to deliver economies of scale; requiring consistency of processes across these groups of practices. Operating at scale will also create opportunity for progression and demand for new roles within general practice including business and operations managers to manage integrated Human Resources, payroll and Organisational Development functions. This must be considered when identifying training and development needs.

Self-management and patient education

Self-management is an over-arching ethos of this primary care strategy and fundamental to the core offer. Every professional should be considering how their involvement is enabling a patient to live as independent a life as possible. For the workforce, there will be a culture shift required to ensure that primary care professionals are embedding an ethos of self-management with patients and that this is reinforced at every level. This must be reinforced through training at all levels.

In addition, there will be a need to ensure patients understand that they do not always necessarily need to see a GP and understanding who is the best professional to meet their needs. The findings of the ‘Breaking the Cycle’ project (see Appendix 1) demonstrated that utilisation rates of roles other than the GP are significantly lower with patients still defaulting to the need to see a GP.

Underpinning this is a focus on reducing duplication with other professionals and making efficiencies within current roles and processes alongside a focus on patient education.
**Funding**

The funding for workforce and for training sits in a number of places; specifically with Health Education Yorkshire and Humber, the Deanery and within individual practice budgets. Practices have already indicated that there may be some opportunities to support recruitment and training through collaboration and joining of resources between practices. The CCG will support this process and provide a central role in supporting development of initiatives such as the mentorship scheme and ensuring CCG funded training offered via forums such as PPT is targeted to support the priorities within this strategy. The CCG will also look to provide support to schemes which support workforce redesign and development in primary care such as the recent OT in primary care pilot, and work with Health Education Yorkshire and Humber and local educational institutions to support the creation of a workforce fit for the future.

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**Case study – The Grange – pharmacists in primary care**

The practice estimated that one in ten hours of GP workload could be done by a pharmacist.

The practice recruited a pharmacy team with a range of skills. The team comprises a pharmacy technician, non-prescribing pharmacist and prescribing pharmacist. Further training for members of the team has been supported by a training grant. The team has now taken on the equivalent workload of a full time GP and the practice is continuing to develop their roles.

The pharmacy team provides support for prescribing queries from staff and patients, medication and poly-pharmacy reviews, clinical audits and dealing directly with patients to promote compliance. The team is involved in achieving QOF targets, incentive schemes and clinical governance. They work in conjunction with the CCG Medicines Management team and are involved in minor ailment clinics and advise on the medicines element of the diabetic clinic.

Not only have these changes reduced costs but the team has reduced the stress and interruptions experienced by the on-call GP. The team has saved time for all GPs and provides an appropriately skilled resource for admin staff to contact when they have patient prescribing queries. Other members of the wider team including practice nurses and management also find the pharmacists a very useful and easily accessible resource.

In a practice short of doctors, with many complex patients, the pharmacist team has become a valuable and integrated resource with benefits far outweighing our original estimates.
Information management and technology

Where are we now?
In primary care, technology is not currently being maximised and there is often scepticism or low levels of utilisation of technology. It is often as seen as an additional burden rather than an enabler. Sharing of records is limited by multiple clinical systems and the current equipment and infrastructure is not always of the required standard to allow use of the available innovations.

What are we trying to achieve?
We want to utilise the systems and technology available to us to maximise efficiency in primary care. We will ensure the foundations are laid through provision of appropriate infrastructure and equipment, training, a shared repository for information and support to migrate all practices to SystmOne. We will utilise these foundations and technological innovation to support patient care and communication with patients and other professionals.

Vision
Primary care will maximise the use of information management and technology where this directly supports patient care and allows clinicians in primary care to work more efficiently and effectively.

Technology and systems are a huge part of the healthcare system and a focus for the NHS with the challenge for health and social care systems to become paperless by 2020.

There are some challenges to maximising the use of technology within general practice, however, where developments maximise benefits for patients, practices in Greater Huddersfield have embraced this; we are the national leader in facilitating access to Patient Online. There are five strands to our strategy relating to IT and technology:

- A shared care record underpinned by a single clinical system for general practice.
- Infrastructure and equipment.
- Training and support.
- Patient facing technology.
- Shared resources and repository.
Diagram 1 below outlines our vision for IT and technology developments by 2020.

The pace at which technological developments occur must be taken into account and this is one area of the strategy which will require frequent review to ensure it takes account of the developments of the time such as cloud based technology, connectivity, security and encryption, and shared portals.

Access to clinical records across professionals is a national and local issue with many systems looking at different ways to tackle the problem. With further collaboration and integration, the need for visibility of patient information is crucial in order to be efficient and effective and manage clinical risk appropriately.

Currently across Greater Huddersfield we have 23 practices using SystmOne and 14 practices using EMIS as their clinical system, with a number of EMIS practices discussing migration. In addition a number of the key partner providers use SystmOne in the local area (including Locala, Kirkwood Hospice and Local Care Direct, as well as other partners using SystmOne viewer). We have reviewed options for system integration including portal solutions and believe that whilst this technology will develop in the long-term, it will not provide the level of visibility and functionality required to give us the most benefit in primary care.
Practices have the option to choose their clinical system under the core contract and this choice will remain. However, the majority of practices (75%) told us that having all General Practices on one clinical system would be beneficial to the whole health and social care system. Our partners have also reflected this as beneficial to integrated and collaborative working.

The benefits of doing this for the system, and at a practice level, have been outlined below (diagram 2). Whilst practices can continue to choose their clinical system, the CCG will support practices wishing to migrate to SystmOne to do so through project management, training and implementation support. There is funding available through our current budget to migrate practices from EMIS to SystmOne and we have learned valuable lessons from practices which have made the transition recently, to help make the process as smooth as possible with the right support offer.

In support of moving towards a shared care record, we will work to integrate with secondary care systems (EPR).

**Funding**

The CCG has a budget to support information management and technology for general practice which covers equipment, infrastructure, training and other resources. It is clear that some of the aspirations for this strategy will require further investment (such as mobile working) and we will continue to seek funding opportunities nationally to support our ambition (e.g. to submit bids for capital and national discussions on converting capital available for technology into revenue streams).

Practices have told us that training and support is fundamental to the best use of IT and clinical systems and there is a commitment to ensuring that this is implemented. To support the strategic intent, the CCG will only provide ongoing IT educational support for SystmOne. Training must be systematic and continuous to gain the maximum benefit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cashable benefits – CCG / system</th>
<th>Cashable benefits – Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent cost savings through running one system e.g. ‘spoke’ servers for EMIS which can be reinvested into other areas e.g. training</td>
<td>Some ‘extras’ such as self check-in for EMIS are an additional cost for practices (this would not be a cost for S1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction in costs associated with supporting two systems</td>
<td>Using same system as community provider has shown to increase QOF points and financial reward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-cashable benefits – CCG / system</th>
<th>Non-cashable benefits – Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased visibility of clinical records across providers (efficiency and clinical safety) Localia, Kirkwood Hospice, LCD all using S1 – CHFT, SWYFT and Bamsley FT also using S1 clinical record viewer</td>
<td>Time-releasing benefits* – using one system, the CCG could support practices by running reports centrally rather than required at practice level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports more integrated working across providers and practices</td>
<td>Time-releasing – CCG could centrally support the development of templates and protocols for use by practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A single system will support the national requirement to be paperless by 2020</td>
<td>Ability to view interventions of other providers e.g. community, hospice, specialist nurses, MSK and prison service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A single system will enable consistent reporting ensuring better information about the activity and demand in primary care (and better data quality support) and make contract monitoring seamless</td>
<td>Ability to work better with other providers and practices collaboratively e.g. hub working to support provision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*N8 – time-releasing benefits may be converted to cashable benefits
The CCG has recently completed a strategic estates plan and this has been reviewed to ensure that it responds to the requirements of the full primary care strategy.

In order to appropriately plan our estate, this requires a much longer-term view beyond the next five years and operating within the constraints of limited budgets and revenue funding streams to support capital investment.

Our ambition for primary care estate is the following:

- Sustainable, efficient primary care estate in the right place.
- A 21st century estate, featuring a new health centre to serve central Huddersfield, funded in the most efficient way, serving the needs of communities with a blend of hospital care and care closer to home.
- Prioritised estate development according to greatest need.
- Access to a large range of shared, community facilities – enabling integrated activities (including third sector, social care and mental health) to take place as locally as possible.
- A network of appropriately located, functionally-suitable GP and community based premises – ensuring that all areas of the community are equitably served – based on need.
- A number of appropriately located, functionally suitable health centres/large community clinics (treatment centres) – providing appropriate settings for specialist community based services.
- That the Primary Care estate is regarded as a community asset. All sorts of wellbeing related activities are coordinated on behalf of the community. A diverse range of services, medical and non-medical are delivered from these community delivery points.
We are not currently utilising estate to maximum efficiency. For example, we have small practices in close proximity using estate which is not fit for purpose to support provision of core services. There are opportunities such as new shared premises which will offer more efficient use of better estate for patients and the system and rationalisation of premises over time to improve the overall quality of the primary care estate.

To support the strategy in the movement of services from secondary care to primary care, and the need for greater collaboration with other practices and partners to deliver these services in a more integrated way, our estate will need to be big enough and well-enough equipped to deliver these services.

Our first priority is the completion and review of the six facet survey which will give an up-to-date view of the current primary care estate. There is then the potential to work with other local providers to review our collective estate and identify opportunities for collective working and rationalisation.

**GP infrastructure funding**

The CCG will need to access the GP infrastructure fund available from central government to support development of estate in line with this primary care strategy. The CCG will establish a structure which will ensure all bids and approvals are in line with the ambitions and principles outlined in this strategy and the information on the current primary care estate will inform the prioritisation process.
Communication and engagement

Fundamental to successful implementation of this strategy will be engagement with member practices, our partner organisations and patients and carers.

**Practice membership**

Member practices have been engaged throughout the development of the strategy and this strategy addresses specific themes that have been highlighted. A summary of the feedback gained throughout the development of the strategy has been made available to all practices on the CCG’s intranet. The practice membership is vital to the successful implementation of the strategy and a full communications and engagement plan will be developed to support this process.

Practices have told us that they access the intranet but this resource is not utilised to its full potential. We can improve this quickly by sharing more information through the intranet (linked to the IM&T objective to create a shared repository for practices) and highlighting new resources and information through our e-newsletter – ‘40fied’.

Moving into implementation of the strategy, there will be opportunities for practices to stay up to date with, and to contribute, through the following mechanisms:

- Involvement in work streams and task and finish groups (once these are established for implementation).
- Engagement, as more detailed plans develop, for each area and the opportunity to shape these.
- Regular intranet and 40fied updates.
- Designated sessions at Business Meeting and Practice Protected Time.
Wider stakeholders

Building on the initial engagement with partner organisations during the development of the strategy, our approach to implementation will be to review and agree programme governance for implementation and widen the membership of work stream groups and establish task and finish groups with representation from partners where there is opportunity for joint development and implementation.

We will also continue to work with partners on a regional level through the development of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), our Healthy Futures priorities and the Urgent and Emergency Care Vanguard programme. All of these regional initiatives will have implications and important roles for primary care; we will ensure that these are aligned with, and supportive of, this strategy for primary care in Greater Huddersfield.

Patients and carers

Patients and carers will continue to be involved and engaged through the Patient Reference Group Network and other patient and community groups and forums. We will share our strategy in the public domain and identify where patients and carers can support us with the development of detailed plans and priorities during implementation.

We will continue to have active involvement with patient groups to understand how overall access, use and experience of primary care services is impacted by the implementation of the strategy. Patient and carer feedback will be crucial to assessing whether the strategy has met the outcomes identified.
**Commissioning and contracting**

**Impact of full delegation**

The CCG received full delegated commissioning for general medical services from NHS England from 1 April 2016. This brings with it, responsibility for the following functions:

- GMS, PMS and APMS contracts (including the design of PMS and APMS contracts, monitoring of contracts, taking contractual action, such as issuing branch/remedial notices, and removing a contract).
- Newly designed enhanced services (local practice based services and DES).
- Design of local incentive schemes as an alternative to QOF.
- Ability to establish new GP practices in an area.
- Approving practice mergers.
- Making decisions on ‘discretionary’ payments (e.g. returner/retainer schemes).
- CCGs also have the option to pool commissioning and GMS/PMS funding for investment in primary care services.

Full delegation requires the creation of a ‘primary care commissioning committee’ to oversee the exercise of delegated functions. This will be similar composition to the Joint Commissioning Committee in operation during 2015/16 with GP representatives from the Governing Body, lay members, and open invitation to the LMC to attend these committee meetings.

**Commissioning, contracting and procurement**

The core offer will have no impact on current contractual arrangements as the existing contracts will still provide the framework for delivery of core services.

The core plus offer will redefine the current enhanced services and fund local priorities for these schemes which will have attached funding streams. These will largely be delivered to a registered list population so will unlikely require a procurement approach although each will be assessed on a case by case basis. This will be managed through the governance structure to support full delegated commissioning responsibility.

The advanced offer is predicated on delivery of services in a primary care setting to the whole population of Greater Huddersfield and not linked to the registered list. As such, each service will require review to determine the procurement approach required. The phasing of services will be determined through feasibility / market testing where required and timelines linked to decommissioning services where required.
Market development

There are currently 37 practices in Greater Huddersfield of which 30 are currently represented by one of two GP Federations in the area. Fundamental to the implementation of the strategy and vision and aspirations for primary care within Greater Huddersfield is the ability of a strong primary care provider market to respond at a practice level and more widely as a group of practices or part of a federation. We want to create a market which encourages and enables practitioners and service providers to innovate and work collaboratively.

Our partners have told us clearly that in order to work together, better, smarter and in a more integrated way, economy of scale is crucial. These organisations (large and small) cannot work in 37 different ways with 37 different practices, there is a critical mass which will enable change and thus a mechanism to engage with general practice collectively is required.

A key theme of the engagement work with practices has been the identification of collaboration between practices as the vehicle for change and the mechanism to deliver the vision for primary care.

Any new models of care discussed locally will heavily involve wider primary care and primary care will need the leadership and a strong unified voice to be a partner in this process.

The CCG will provide support to develop the primary care provider market, including strengthening the voice of collaborative general practice through facilitation of federation development.
Appendices

Appendix 1 - Case for change

National Policy and drivers

The NHS Mandate
The Mandate renews the focus on improving patient outcomes and reducing health inequalities.

The NHS Constitution
The NHS constitution sets out principles for what patients can expect from the NHS and what the NHS can expect from patients.

The NHS Outcomes Framework
The indicators in the NHS Outcomes Framework are grouped around five domains:

**Domain 1** Preventing people from dying prematurely;
**Domain 2** Enhancing quality of life for people with long-term conditions;
**Domain 3** Helping people to recover from episodes of ill health or following injury;
**Domain 4** Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care; and
**Domain 5** Treating and caring for people in a safe environment; and protecting them from avoidable harm.

For each domain, there are a small number of over-arching indicators followed by a number of improvement areas.

Everyone Counts: Planning for Patients 2014/15 to 2018/19

The five offers as set out in NHS England’s planning framework ‘Everyone Counts:

**Offer 1** NHS services, seven days a week;
**Offer 2** More transparency, more choice;
**Offer 3** Listening to patients and increasing their participation;
**Offer 4** Better data, informed commissioning, driving improved outcomes; and
**Offer 5** Higher standards, safer care.
GP Contract

The GP contract 2015-2016 for England has been negotiated and agreed between the BMA general practitioners committee (GPC) and NHS Employers on behalf of NHS England. Changes to the current GP contract will be implemented over the lifespan of this strategy. Any change or increased flexibility should be fully utilised to help bring about the strategic change that is needed.

Five-Year Forward View

Outlines the vision for new models of care and introduces the concept of vertical and horizontal integration models including primary care – primary and acute care systems and multi-specialty community providers.

New deal for general practice

The Secretary of State described commitments to general practice linked to the Five Year Forward View on: a) workforce, b) infrastructure, c), reducing bureaucracy, d) helping to support struggling practices. He also outlined plans to review the way quality of care is assessed in general practice. In return he is asking GPs to work towards:

- Offering appointments seven days a week;
- Assuming social prescribing responsibilities;
- Playing a more prominent role in public health; and
- Taking 'real clinical responsibility' for patients.

Local drivers

Transformation

Locally, Greater Huddersfield is undertaking three major transformation programmes, of which the Primary Care Strategy forms one pillar. Care Closer to Home is changing the way community services are delivered following the procurement of a lead provider. Right Care, Right Time, Right Place, currently at formal consultation stage, looks at how hospital services will be reconfigured and provided in Greater Huddersfield.

It is recognised that all these programmes are interdependent, if one of these fails to achieve its vision, goals and the required sustainability; all three will fail.
Care Closer to Home identified a vision for a community service wrapped around GP practice, supporting patients through locality teams. Close working between primary care and community services is essential to deliver outcomes for patients and support more care out of hospital settings.

Right Care, Right Time, Right Place focuses on reconfiguration of local hospital services of which several factors will impact upon primary care:

- Delivery of more planned services in a primary care / community setting.
- Role of primary care in ensuring unnecessary attendances and admissions to hospital are avoided.
- Role of primary care workforce in supporting the proposed Urgent Care Centres.

**Workforce**

The national workforce challenge within healthcare and primary care is well documented. In Greater Huddersfield the challenges are no different, we know that:

- 7% of GPs in Greater Huddersfield are due to retire / leave general practice in the next 12 months (8-9 that we are aware of)
- 21% of the practice nursing workforce are at risk of retirement (55+) (see graph 1)
- 30% of practice management / non-clinical staff are at risk of retirement (see graph 2)
- Health Education Yorkshire and Humber is concerned about workforce supply – not just GPs but also nursing staff and wider roles.

![Graph 1 - Age profile practice nurses in Greater Huddersfield, Health Education Yorkshire and Humber](image)

![Graph 2 - Age profile practice management in Greater Huddersfield, Health Education Yorkshire and Humber](image)
Finances

Locally, 22 of the 37 practices in Greater Huddersfield are on a PMS contract, currently under review. This is posing some of these practices with a significant financial challenge, whilst other GMS practices are being impacted by the removal of funding through the Minimum Practice Income Guarantee (MPIG).

Demand, activity and process

There is limited data and information available on the demand and capacity within primary care. During ‘Breaking the Cycle’ undertaken over three separate five day periods during 2015, 32 practices took part in an exercise with partners to look at new ways of working. A full analysis is underway but some key information has been taken from this exercise:

- Over the five-day period 26 practices received 20,903 telephone contacts.
- Approx. 50% were appointment requests.
- Across 23 practices there were 3,456 requests for urgent appointments.
- There is under-utilisation of appointments of some categories of health professional including practice nurses and health care assistants (see Table 3 on the next page).
- Access to specialist opinions need to be rapid and reliable or the system backs up.
- Cross-organisational appointment scheduling would be useful.
- Real time information matters.
- Soon but not urgent approach could help patients and YAS dispatchers.
- A very small number of patients receiving a home visit go on to hospital showing the positive impact of clinicians in keeping people at home.
- Utilisation of online booking is extremely low (1.1%) and resulting in a huge amount of time booking appointments by administrative staff.
- Practices are willing to innovate and try new ways of working.
- There is still inefficiency in process which is impacting on outcomes for patients which can be improved.
### Table 3 - Appointment utilisation rates by role

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Available</th>
<th>Booked</th>
<th>DNA</th>
<th>Utilisations</th>
<th>DNA%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GP/s</td>
<td>4681</td>
<td>3959</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>1220</td>
<td>1011</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Nurse</td>
<td>1781</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Assistant</td>
<td>1061</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phlebotomist</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Appointments</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife:</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antenatal</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Surgery:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellors:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Visitor</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other - Shared Care</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>175%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other - Child/Minor Ailment</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENT Outreach Clinic:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urology Outreach Clinic:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other - Midwife</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other - OSDC</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>9362</td>
<td>6567</td>
<td>353</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Appendix 2 - Engagement

#### Engagement with practices

Information utilised from practices:

- Practice Protected Time (PPT) (March 2015).
- GHCCG and Primary Care Commissioning, Developing our primary care strategy (July 2015).
- Member Practice Business Meeting (July 2015).
- Practice Managers’ Reference Group, Future Management of General Practice (October 2015).
- Primary Care summit (October 2015).
- GP Registrars’ session (November 2015).
- Survey to practices (February 2016).
- Member Practice Business Meeting (March 2016).
- Practice Protected Time (PPT) (March 2016).
Engagement with wider stakeholders

Session held on primary care strategy development on 3 March 2016 attended by:

- Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust.
- Locala Community Partnerships.
- South-West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.
- Local Care Direct.
- Third Sector Leaders.
- Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire.
- Kirklees Council.

Engagement with patients and public

Patient and public engagement information utilised:

- CC2H stakeholder events (2014).
- Right Care, Right Time, Right Place stakeholder events (2015).
- Primary care engagement with Community Voices (community assets) (December 2015) which included the following groups:

  - The Denby Dale Centre
  - Kirklees Visual Impairment Network
  - Moldgreen United Reformed Church
  - The Basement Recovery Project
  - LS2Y
  - Mencap in Kirklees
  - Support to Recovery (s2r)
  - Volunteers Together
  - Honeyzz

  - PRJM Ltd.
  - Women’s Centre
  - One Good Turn Charity MBE
  - Yorkshire Children's Centre
  - Royal Voluntary Service
  - Indian Workers Association
  - Huddersfield Pakistani Community Alliance
  - Q 4 E
  - Huddersfield Mission
Appendix 3 – Core, core plus and advanced offer

Core offer (list based)

The key principles and standards for the core offer will be:

- Promote self-management with patients.
- All practices will achieve CQC ‘Good’ standards in all domains, be legally registered and deliver core standards.
- Minimum scheduled appointment time for a routine GP appointment will be ten minutes – this should support preventative and person-centred approaches.
- There will be no minimum appointment time for practice nursing staff, recognising these will require great flexibility based on the individual patient’s needs.
- All patients identified and coded as having a long-term condition will be managed to meet the standards prescribed by QOF.
- All patients with an identified long-term condition (COPD, diabetes, epilepsy, asthma (requiring regular inhalers / steroids), palliative patients) will have a mutually agreed care plan in place where a patient agrees to take part in developing the care plan.
- Treatment should take into account individual needs and preferences, with patients having the opportunity to make informed decisions about their care, with a health professional. If the individual does not have the capacity to consent, guidance within the code of practice supporting the Mental Capacity Act should be followed.
- Personal development and an active appraisal system for staff.
- Patient experience and feedback should be sought and acted upon.
- All practices will have an effective patient reference group.
Access

The key requirements of the core offer, which will address the current issues with inequity of access for patients, are:

- All practices should be open from 8.00am to 6.30pm Monday – Friday.
- Access to same day requests, where appropriate, must be available and addressed for patients contacting the practice between 8.30am and 6.00pm on that day (this will be access to an appropriate clinician but will not necessarily mean a face-to-face appointment).
- Patients living in care homes or nursing homes are included within the delivery of the core offer. The Carr Hill funding formula does account for this but we recognise that additional support and investment is required.
- Online access should be available for appointments and prescriptions.
- All practices must offer telephone consultation / appointments.
- All practices must have a regularly updated website with information sources for patients to access.
- NHS Choices should be kept up to date.
- Unplanned routine appointments e.g. back pain / minor infection will be provided within five working days (this is with an appropriate clinician as determined by the practice).
- Planned routine appointments e.g. reviews are not subject to minimum timescales and should be made as appropriate for the individual patient.
- All practices must use the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) to make available to all eligible patients (noting the opt out on this for dispensing practices, of which there is one in the Greater Huddersfield area).
- All practices will enable their patients to have electronic access to their records (Patient Online).

The services listed have been identified through the development of the strategy and feedback from practices. Core plus and advanced services will be defined and agreed during implementation of the primary care strategy.
Examples of core plus services (list based)

The services listed on the right are those commissioned by the CCG and does not include those services commissioned by the Local Authority / Public Health e.g. sexual health and drug and alcohol services.

Examples of advanced services (not list based)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting training and placements for practice staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced care home provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced access models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring pessary fitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing diagnostics in primary care above core offer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex leg ulcers and wounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced diabetes provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endometrial biopsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peripheral vascular disease checks e.g. ABPI measurements and Doppler assessments of legs for ulcers and PVD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor surgery and some intermediate level surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladder scanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECG and spirometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor injury service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiology / hearing aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ophthalmology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urology outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasectomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step-up / step-down provision (consideration as to whether this could be extended to include patients in their own homes with a wrap-around intermediate tier service provision)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ears, nose and throat (ENT) GPwSI clinics/ outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatology outpatients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some advanced diagnostic services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anticoagulation above core offer</td>
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<td>Dementia tier 2 service</td>
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<td>Cardiology GPwSI service</td>
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# Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AHP</td>
<td>Allied Health Professional</td>
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<tr>
<td>APMS contract</td>
<td>Alternative Personal Medical Services Contract</td>
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<tr>
<td>CC2H</td>
<td>Care Closer to Home</td>
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<td>CCG</td>
<td>Clinical Commissioning Group</td>
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<td>DES</td>
<td>Directed Enhanced Service</td>
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<td>GMS contract</td>
<td>General Medical Services Contract</td>
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<td>GP</td>
<td>General Practitioner</td>
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<td>GPwSI</td>
<td>General Practitioner with Special Interest</td>
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<td>HCA</td>
<td>Health Care Assistant</td>
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<td>LES</td>
<td>Local Enhanced Service</td>
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<td>MPIG</td>
<td>Minimum Practice Income Guarantee</td>
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<td>OT</td>
<td>Occupational Therapist</td>
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<td>PMS contract</td>
<td>Personal Medical Services Contract</td>
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<td>PPT</td>
<td>Practice Protected Time</td>
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<td>QOF</td>
<td>Quality and Outcomes Framework</td>
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References

The following articles and case studies were reviewed during the development of this strategy in addition to the relevant national policy documents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author / Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BMA, 'Responsible safe and sustainable general practice'</td>
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