



## News from NHS Sussex

*September 2011*

A great deal of hard work has continued to be the hallmark of NHS Sussex over the recent weeks. I therefore wanted to start my latest bulletin by paying tribute to all our staff and partners for their invaluable contributions.

Over the past two months there has been significant national policy and guidance including Sir David Nicholson's vision for the new National Commissioning Board; the announcement that NHS Future Forum is continuing its work listening to patients, service users and professionals, and the draft approach to the authorisation of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs). Legislation is continuing its process through parliament, with the House of Lords due to receive the amended bill in October.

In a further development, you will no doubt be aware that the SHAs are also subject to "clustering" from 3 October. We therefore welcome Sir Ian Carruthers as the new chief executive of NHS South of England (South West, South Central and South East Coast). The Chair of NHS South of England is Dr Geoff Harris (current chair of NHS South Central).

For those of you who wish to read more about the national, regional and local developments please take a look at my recent [Chief Executive's report](#) to the NHS Sussex board.

In the remainder of this bulletin, I wanted to concentrate on providing you with a few brief updates:

### **Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)**

We are in a process of transition with the seven Sussex CCGs working towards taking responsibility for the healthcare of people in their area. The 'pipeline process' helps identify CCG strengths and the areas where further work is needed – all the Sussex CCGs will have completed this process by the end of December. We are working with GP chairs and other key partners to move to some CCGs working in shadow form from April 2012. Until April 2013 NHS Sussex remains the accountable organisation.

### **NHS Sussex Management Board**

In recognition of our joint agenda, I am establishing a weekly meeting between my executive team, the CCG chairs and chief operating officers. This will assist us in handling the issues of immediate concern, as well as co-designing the processes leading to the transfer of responsibilities to CCGs by April 2013.

## **Changes in our executive team**

Sharmila Nebhrajani is leaving us to become Chief Executive of the Association of Medical Research Charities and Michael Schofield has been appointed to the post of Finance Director. In October Amanda Philpott will join us on secondment to the role of Director of Strategy and Provider Development. A reminder of the responsibilities of the executive team is overleaf.

## **Sussex Together - previously known as Project Endeavour**

Provider trusts in the NHS have traditionally worked as distinct and separate organisations, sometimes co-operating on specific projects but considering their workforce, income and costs separately.

Over the past year, it has become increasingly clear that we need to do something very different in Sussex in order to secure the best care for our patients and our population as well as ensuring that we can balance the books.

We have begun to work with provider trusts under the project name Sussex Together on a clinically-led, systematic review of how services throughout Sussex could develop if we take a much more networked approach to healthcare. If we look at all the resources we have across Sussex – people, skills, money, buildings – and think outside of current organisational constraints, then we have the opportunity to deliver better care for the people of Sussex.

Sussex Together will ensure we have a shared understanding of current plans - what they mean for the future of services in Sussex, where there are gaps or overlaps, where the finances do or do not work. Through November and December we will use this intelligence to develop a new picture of services based on the budget for the system as a whole and cross organisational working.

## **Finance and QIPP**

September's NHS Sussex board meeting received reports which stress the challenges we continue to face in relation to our overall finances and QIPP work (quality, innovation, productivity and prevention – transforming healthcare for the benefit of patients and to ensure best value for money). The importance of delivering our objectives in both these areas cannot be underestimated and together with our partners, we will remain resolute in our pursuit of these objectives.

## **Concluding comments**

It remains a challenging time to be working in the NHS, but our commitment to continue improving the health of our population and the services provided to people in Sussex remains steadfast. I am proud to be leading NHS Sussex through this period of transition and remain extremely grateful to all our partners for your continuing efforts in helping us to achieve our goals.

## NHS Sussex Executive Team



### **Sue Braysher**

Director of Contracting and Performance

- Director lead for the North West Sussex Association
- Links with Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust and Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Responsibilities include IT and HR



### **Julia Dutchman-Bailey**

Director of Quality and Chief Nurse

- Links with Sussex Community NHS Trust
- Responsibilities include safeguarding, patient experience, risk and complaints



### **Andrew Foulkes**

Accountable Medical Director

- Working closely with joint medical director Lisa Argent and with our Directors of Public Health Tom Scanlon, Diana Grice and Judith Wright.
- Caldicott Guardian



### **Amanda Philpott**

Director of Strategy

- Director lead for the Coastal West Sussex Federation
- Links with Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust
- Responsibilities include provider development and estates



### **Claire Quigley**

Director of Delivery

- Director lead for the East Sussex clinical commissioning groups
- Links with East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- Responsibilities include QIPP and integrated planning



### **Michael Schofield**

Director of Finance

- Director lead for the Brighton and Hove clinical commissioning group
- Links with Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Responsibilities include emergency planning and business case evaluation



### **Frank Sims**

Director of the Sussex Commissioning Support Unit

- Lead for the Commissioning Support Unit
- Links with Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Responsibilities include performance and procurement