

**Meeting  
of the Southern Local Commissioning Group  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 2 pm held in Boardroom Tower  
Hill, Armagh**

**Present**

Dr Gerry Millar, (Chair) General Medical Practitioner  
Cllr Sharon McAleer, Local Government Representative  
Dr Brian Cupples, General Medical Practitioner  
Dr Raymond McVerry, General Medical Practitioner  
Cllr Kyle Savage, Local Government Representative  
Ms Lorraine Ringland, Allied Health Professional, PHA  
Dr Leonard Maguire, Medical Dental Representative  
Mr Liam Devine, Community/Voluntary Representative  
Cllr Robert Colvin, Local Government Representative  
Ms Deirdre Cunningham, Nurse Consultant, PHA

**In Attendance**

Miss Sophie Lusby, Assistant Director Commissioning, SPPG  
Mrs Patricia McVeigh, Senior Communications Officer, SPPG  
Mrs Hazel Gillis, Corporate Business Manager, SPPG  
Mrs Ann Redpath, Corporate Business Officer, SPPG  
Ms Judith Poucher, Deputy CEO of Clanrye Group (item 6)

**Apologies**

Dr Ian Campbell, General Medical Practitioner  
Cllr Declan McAteer, Local Government Representative  
Mrs Colette Rogers, Head of Health/Social Wellbeing Improvement  
(Southern area), PHA

**25/22 Welcome and Opening Remarks – Chair**

The Chair welcomed two new members and existing members to the Southern Local Commissioning Group (LCG) in October and acknowledged apologies for today's meeting.

**26/22 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were approved by all present and signed by the Chair.

## **27/22 Matters Arising**

The Chair confirmed there were no outstanding matters from the previous meeting.

## **28/22 Chairs Business**

The Chair informed members that the Local Commissioning Group was to end in March 2022, however, it has now been extended to September 2023.

Miss Lusby informed members that extension letters on terms of office would be issued and advised that a consultation event was planned for 11 November 2022. The meeting would be led by Ms Martina Moore, SPPG Integrated Care Partnership Team and would focus on extension of the Local Commissioning Groups (LCGs) together with discussions on progression to the Integrated Care Systems (ICS). Miss Lusby added that LCG members have an immense role to play in driving the ICS Programme forward.

## **29/22 Presentation from Clanrye Group**

Mr Liam Devine brought a presentation to members on the work of the Clanrye Group, a registered charity offering a wide range of services for individuals and families and a variety of programmes to support and reconnect people with their communities.

Mr Devine outlined the work of each of its services, the programmes that were currently available and provided detail of The Community Development Programmes.

He explained the Clanrye Group was part of the 'Healthy Living Centre' network. The 'Social Prescribing Programme' offered through this network. It focused on improving the health and well-being of people aged 18+ by addressing social, emotional and practical needs and the aim to connect them to sources of support within their community and prevent them progressing down the route of acute care. Mr Devine advised, this programme worked through a referral system by GP or Primary Health Care Professional. The vast majority of people availing of this service were those suffering from social isolation, low mood or mild depression or have long term conditions and periods of physical inactivity. It was funded by the Lottery and the name of the programme was called Spring.

The Clanrye Group have partnered with Newry & Mourne District Council as part of Council's Community and Covid Recovery Plan to provide health and well-being classes in various centers across the district. The 'Be Active Programme' was launched in 2021 and had been offered to approximately 8,000 people to address social isolation and encourage participation in physical activities. Mr Devine advised that all classes on this programme were low cost and inclusive for all, community based, include a social element, and suitable for beginners or those returning to exercise.

'The Verve Network' was another programme where the Clanrye Group had partnered with the Southern Trust in providing services and facilitators to support community associations share information, best practice and provide community health services to a wider group of people. Based in Portadown, this programme endeavored to draw people back into community groups to become involved in social and physical activities. Mr Devine stated that funding was currently being sought to operationalise the programme.

The 'Carers First Programme' provided an individually assessed and tailored support plan for adult carers living in the Newry and Mourne, Armagh and Dungannon, and Craigavon and Banbridge areas. In partnership with the Southern HSC Trust the Clanrye Group offered a wide range of support services for example advocacy services/signposting, Education and Training, Social Activities, Health and Wellbeing, Personal Development and General Information. Carers could be referred through GP and social care teams or self-referred. There were 1000 registered on the programme in the SHSCT area. Mr Devine added that focus group sessions had been organised with carers and highlighted this was an area of significant concern.

A new programme which was currently underway is the 'Inclusive Communities Programme' which was partnered with Southern HSC Trust supported living centers. Adults with a disability were supported through person centered plans which identifies access to work opportunities and community facilities, and offers training, leisure and health and social care. When individuals were content and confident the services were slowly withdrawn and they become fully integrated into the community. This programme was also being taken forward in the Western Trust as a cross border programme.

Mr Devine detailed the impact and footprint of the Clanrye Group on the community: 10,500 participants on programmes in any one year, in 2021 there were 200 qualifications, 130 took up employment and 100 into education.

Mr Devine reminded members of the real impact the cost of living crisis was having on communities. A document setting out collaboration in action and named 'Living Well Together' which had

recently been presented to local government, was shared with members. The document sets out the full range of services provided across the community to ensure people stay healthy without having to access primary care services. Mr Devine advised members that European Social Funding will end in March 2023 with serious consequences for both small and large charities and their clients. Mr Devine emphasized that the 'Peace Plus' programme was designed to bring together anyone with an interest in health and well-being to ensure there was complementarity with no duplication of efforts or services.

Following the presentation, members discussed the effect the cost of living crisis had on the health and well-being on communities and the positive impact services and groups, working in unity, had in making a difference to people's quality of life. Miss Lusby raised the point that going forward into an Integrated Care System an infrastructure compiling all available mechanisms and resources, in one place, could be developed.

**30/22**

### **Diabetes Care in the Southern Area**

Miss Lusby outlined the work to date on developing and defining a New Regional Integrated Pathway Model for Diabetes by the Diabetes Network NI. This Network consists of some 200 members: a partnership of representatives from Strategic Performance and Planning Group (SPPG), Public Health Agency (PHA), Diabetes UK (DUK) and all Health and Social Care Trusts, alongside Primary Care and People Living with Diabetes. The Network was taking forward this work as an Integrated Service model exemplar for service delivery within Integrated Care System model.

Miss Lusby advised following the approval in principle, of the proposed Regional Integrated Pathway by the Board at the meeting held 18 March 2022, wider consultation took place between April and September 2022 to inform discussions, under three strands – Primary Care, Hospital Services and Citizens. Workshops with all key stakeholders took place in November and December as well as focus groups with People Living with Diabetes facilitated by Diabetes UK, Hospital Services Workshop and Primary Care engagement. The Network invited stakeholders to a workshop on 6th September 2022 to explore and discuss integrated pathway development. The aim was to outline insights, benchmarking, review, inform and agree together the final working position for presentation and approval at Board on 14th September 2022. Based on this extensive consultation and final workshop with all stakeholders represented, an agreed Regional Integrated Pathway outline was presented and approved by Network Board on 14 September 2022.

A meeting was scheduled with DoH on 9 November 22 to discuss progression. Following two workshops and numerous discussions a regional model for future practice was proposed and agreed. This proposed model was based on workforce service demands and patient need. The pathway which makes best use of existing staff across primary, secondary care and community care was the preferred model. It includes education and support to further wrap around and bolster integrated service provision and delivery.

The proposed model outlines a high-level integrated approach across primary and secondary care with the creation of formal community care provision which enables primary care to be suitably supported and also provides connection with Hospital Services caseload as appropriate. Whilst there were significant challenges across this model of practice with identified requirements around resource, both financial and human, education, support and configuration, it was an agreed approach that could be developed. The model would be an enabling framework from which a defined end to end pathway for diabetes would be sought.

With approval in principle, a costed Regional Integrated Pathway and model of care for diabetes would be brought forward to the Department of Health for implementation on 9 November 2022.

Miss Lusby commented that the involvement of all stakeholders in this important work is essential to finalise and set direction for a new Integrated Care Model in Northern Ireland. This model would ultimately cater for a long-term condition, ensuring people living with diabetes secure appropriate treatment and care at the most appropriate time, with the right support and professionals to optimise their outcomes. Miss Lusby added that it was important to note the Department of Health had also committed to a Programme of Care Workforce Review for Diabetes.

Miss Lusby highlighted 3 questions regarding Diabetes Pathway within an ICS which would be discussed at the next Southern LCG:

- (1) What are the opportunities and challenges to be considered?
- (2) How would each partner contribute to supporting the pathway?
- (3) What wider issues outside the health service would we need to take into consideration?

### **31/22 Commissioner Update**

Miss Lusby informed members that subject to consultation Daisy Hill Hospital would become an overnight elective sit. Commissioning have not yet gone into a process of reviewing the case for change regarding emergency general surgery re-starting at Daisy Hill and when the consultation is published it would be considered at the

Southern LCG. Miss Lusby added that the consultation may be delayed due to local elections.

Miss Lusby confirmed that Sir Robin Swann would cease as Minister for Health on 26 October 2022.

Miss Lusby outlined the new Performance Driven Health Regime whereby the Permanent Secretary was reviewing 2019/2020 performance across secondary care and community care to ensure services being delivered return to full capacity and operational levels. Miss Lusby outlined various services and specialties and provided an update on the current status, adding that the breakdown of both the Cath Lab in CAH and the MRI in Daisy Hill had impacted greatly on delivery of these services. Miss Lusby confirmed that Commissioning were working closely with Trust representatives, focusing on areas with underperformance, capacity and workforce issues.

**Action:** A representative of the Southern HSC Trust will be invited to join the next meeting to discuss the development of the Diagnostic Centre at Dungannon.

### **32/22 Closing Remarks & Any Other Business**

The Chair asked members to forward any further comments on discussion from items on the agenda to Miss Lusby.

### **33/22 Date of Next meeting**

The Chair confirmed date of next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 2.00pm.