Surrey Heartlands STP chosen to test maternity services for the future

It has been announced by NHS England that following a robust bid process, Surrey Heartlands STP (known as Surrey Heartlands) will be one of 7 local areas selected to take forward recommendations to improve maternity services as set out in the NHS Maternity Transformation Programme. These early adopters will test a range of new and innovative ways of working that will help to transform maternity services across Surrey Heartlands STP to reflect the needs of all women and their babies.

As an early adopter, Surrey Heartlands STP will work through solutions for developing maternity services, evaluating them and disseminating the learning as outlined in the NHS Maternity Transformation Programme. Using a share of £8m over two years, early adopter sites will play a key role in delivering action and improvement quickly and their experiences will pave the way for the national roll-out of initiatives to deliver safer, more personalised care for all women and every baby, improving outcomes and reducing inequalities.

The programme aims to develop:

- A shared community midwifery service model across the geography, enabling midwives to work across organisational boundaries supported by mobile technology and electronic patient records
- Service provision from ‘community hubs’, where a plethora of services can be delivered to pregnant women and families
- A Surrey Heartlands-wide home-birthing team ensuring that local women have access to a full range of birth choices
- A dedicated ‘maternity line’ to ensure that women have easy access to consistent advice & information when they need it.

Sarah Parker, Director for Commissioning, Children (Surrey-wide) said: “We are so pleased to have been chosen as one of the early adopters, leading the way in developing and implementing changes to local services. The funding available will support transformational changes in maternity services over the next two years and help to ensure women and babies receive safe care that meets their needs.”

The early adopter sites are crucial to improving maternity care across England and Wales. It is important that services are more responsive, personalized and safer and the new ways of working will allow Surrey Heartlands STP to embed this within maternity services across Surrey. As a result, we will be able to provide learning opportunities to other areas.
Our aim is to deliver real improvement to local maternity services and make a positive difference to the care and experience of women locally and nationally.

Notes for Editors

Maternity Transformation Programme:

More details can be found about the NHS Maternity Transformation Programme at this link: [Maternity Transformation Programme]

The Early Adopter sites are:

1. Birmingham and Solihull STP
2. Cheshire and Merseyside STP
3. Dorset STP
4. North Central London STP
5. North West London STP
6. Somerset STP
7. Surrey Heartlands STP

As a result of a National Maternity Review led by Baroness Julia Cumberlege, a Better Births five-year forward view for maternity care has been developed.

Surrey Heartlands STP:

Surrey Heartlands STP is a partnership bringing together clinicians and other health and care staff – alongside patients, their carers and families and members of the public - to think through how we can transform services so local residents have access to the very best care and treatments. This is a new and exciting way of working, creating a real partnership that will make a positive difference to local people.

Surrey Heartlands STP working together:

- Ashford and St Peter’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (acute hospital services)
- CSH Surrey (delivering community services across Surrey Downs)
- Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust (acute hospital services)
- Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group
- North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group
- Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (acute hospital services)
- South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust (ambulance services)
- Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (delivering mental health services across Surrey)
- Surrey County Council (adult and children’s social care services)
- Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Group
• Virgin Care (delivering community services across West Surrey)

NHS Guildford & Waverley CCG commissions local health care services on behalf of people living in Guildford and Waverley. It also supports the commissioning of maternity and children’s health care services across all Surrey’s CCGs.

For more information, please contact Jo Lang, Communications Manager, NHS Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group. Email: jo.lang@nhs.net  Telephone: 01483 405426.