

‘Getting services right for Holsworthy’
Holsworthy Community Involvement Group (HCIG)
Community, NHS, Voluntary Sector and Local Authorities Working together

Update 4 – 26 June 2018

The following represents an update from your representatives on the committee.

A public update will follow every meeting. This will be made available on line, together with other information so as to keep the community informed.

Matron returns to town

Holsworthy’s community matron is set to return to the town next week. Health and social care manager Gary Patch informed the group that the community matron would be based in the town’s hospital and across the Barnstaple site– the Matron will oversee an implementation plan to re-reopen its beds whilst undertaking her current role part time. The Matron’s priority will be the reopening of the Holsworthy beds..

The news was announced during the latest meeting of the Holsworthy Community Involvement Group in the town on Tuesday, 25 June.

The group was set up to better understand the area’s health and social care needs and is made up of local people, community leaders and representatives with support from the NHS.

Work to assess which staff might work from the hospital had already begun, and discussions with staff and local GP practices were underway. Further updates would be made to the group in due course.

People’s needs come first

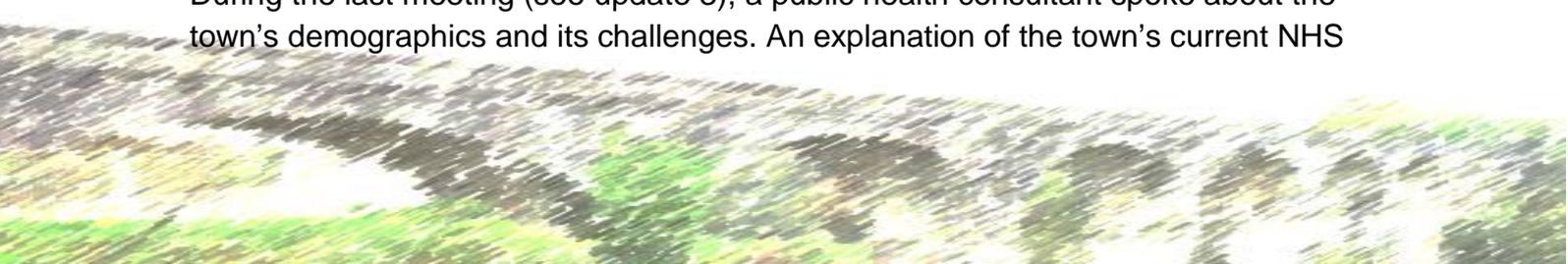
The terms of reference for the group were signed off, and there was a wide-ranging discussion about what the group is trying to address – and what the final ‘product’ should be.

Members agreed that it was important to address the long-term future of the Community Hospital beds and that future services should be firmly based on the needs of local people: if beds were needed they should be provided.

The group would make recommendations in the form of a final report to be presented to the clinical commissioning group (CCG), which commissions healthcare services.

If some of the recommendations were outside of the CCG’s remit, then the CCG would identify these with the community and look at imaginative ways of meeting them. This might involve other statutory services, the charity or voluntary sector.

During the last meeting (see update 3), a public health consultant spoke about the town’s demographics and its challenges. An explanation of the town’s current NHS



service was also given, which showed that there were almost 40 professionals, including community nurses, social workers, community matrons and therapists working in the community to keep people well.

There are more than 40 outpatient or other healthcare services running in the hospital, 12 of which were new since March 2017.

Local discussions

The next stage of the project is planning so that the group can find out from residents what health and social care needs local people have, and how these differ from the information already held.

To get this underway, group members from the local community were asked to list all the community groups, voluntary and independent sector organisations and then plot these on a map of the town.

This work would form the basis of a communication strategy which might include a survey people's views, together with visits to local groups to listen to people's views.

The importance of hearing 'hidden voices' (those people who may be too busy or difficult to reach) was noted.

Next steps

This is week three of a minimum 12-week project.

After this the group will make recommendations about future health and care needs in the area. These recommendations, along with clinical, financial and logistical considerations, will then inform decisions about future services for wider community consideration, which may be subject to consultation.

The CCG has previously said that it recognises that the town is in a remote location and that a bespoke solution to health and social care needs in the community is necessary to address the challenges it faces.

The next meeting of the group will take place on Tuesday 10th July.

