

Minutes: Colchester Patient Forum

Meeting: 26th October 2016; St Johns Church Community Centre

Agenda/Minutes:

1 *Actions from Previous Meeting:*

None

2 *New Essex Eye Screening Programme*

Lorraine Lockwood (DESP Engagement Officer) presented a slide pack that explained the background to retinopathy screening and how the service worked.

The new screening service covered the whole of Essex apart from Romford as this comes under the London screening service.

Lorraine stated that retinopathy was the leading cause of blindness in the UK. Since the introduction of the national retinopathy screening service, this is no longer the case.

When screened, some GPs will have access to the actual retinal screening pictures. However, if the screening is not normal, this will be referred directly to the hospital service, i.e. the patient does not have to be referred by their GP.

A/P Steve Turner to ask when ophthalmology clinics will move from Essex County Hospital to the PCC building on Turner Road.

In terms of scheduling annual screening, this will normally be ahead of the annual screening anniversary.

With regards to people living on the borders of Suffolk and Essex, people are normally referred to a screening center for the county their GP is base in. In recognition that this is not always convenient, those who are registered with the Constable Country Practice, East Bergholt can be screened in Colchester.

Lorraine confirmed there is a plan to increase the availability of retinopathy screening on Saturdays with an optician in each major town as part of the service.

There are also plans to increase clinic venues, including using the Health Bus for the traveler site in Basildon.

Lorraine also stated that when people move to a new GP, their retinopathy screening images should also go to the new GP.

3 *KPI to Date*

Steve Turner took the meeting through the current KPI performance to date and presented a list of GPs and their achievements for the delivery of 8 care processes.

- Overall for September, 8 Care processes fell marginally short of target (65.9% vs 69.0%).

4 MDT Foot Clinic

Steve stated that feedback for the changes in podiatry have been generally positive. Steve will ask Sheila to come back at the 1st anniversary of the revised service to see what the trends and outcomes are.

Hospital orthotics was also part of the new service, enabling people to be measured for their new orthotics prior to being discharged, i.e. a more seamless service.

5 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 21st December @ 18:00 at St Johns Church Community Centre.