

**Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West CCGs
Governing Bodies meetings in common
10 June 2021 (in public)**

Action Required

Governing Body members provide a response to the public questions submitted via the Q&A Box at the 10 June 2021 meeting.

Questions submitted

| No | Questions / Comments | Responder |
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| Q1 | As a member of the public, I cannot see a list of participants, this is very disappointing, I hope this will be remedied next time. | Lynn Casey-Sturt: GB Secretary (BW CCG) |
| A1 | This is a highly requested feature, but this function is not yet available in Teams Live Events. The CCGs will be looking into this further and its suitability. | |
| Q2 | Regarding the Hydropool at Reading, what alternative proposed sites have been found and are they accessible by public transport? | Shairoz Claridge/ Caroline Tack (BW CCG) |
| A2 | <p>The CCG has been researching locally available hydrotherapy pools, a short list has been compiled based on feedback from Royal Berkshire clinicians involved in the current delivery of this service. Prospective sites have had a clinical site visit with a team of aquatic physiotherapists from the Royal Berkshire hospital to assess the appropriateness of the pool and access requirements. A pool would only be deemed suitable following their recommendations to the CCG. The clinical and quality checklist includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQC registration • Suitability of pool size and depth • Pool temperature • Presence of the necessary health and safety equipment e.g., buoyance aids and evacuation equipment • Accessibility of the building and the pool itself (availability of hoists etc) • Suitability of changing facilities • Car parking • Transport links <p>The CCG is currently in commercial negotiations with providers on this matter and as such is unable to confirm these sites at this stage.</p> | |

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| Q3 | Regarding the Hydrotherapy pool closure, how will you ensure existing health inequalities are not increased due to the closure of the pool? | Shairoz Claridge/ Caroline Tack (BW CCG) |
| A3 | <p>In December 2020 Berkshire West CCG took the decision to not routinely commission hydrotherapy services and given the ongoing closure of the RBFT pool due to COVID restrictions and long-term maintenance issues that for those eligible for hydrotherapy (through an individual funding request process) an alternative pool would be found to support these patients. As highlighted in the previous question work to secure a pool/pools is underway.</p> <p>The clinical evidence reviewed as part of the CCGs consultation confirmed that any hydrotherapy benefits are no greater than alternative land-based physiotherapy, which have equivalent outcomes for the majority of patients and where clinical benefit is identified then an IFR application will be made. The IFR process is open to all patients. All patients, regardless of this process, will have universal access to land-based physiotherapy and therefore will not be disadvantaged.</p> | |
| Q4 | Have the job descriptions for Place MDs been reviewed by local partners? | James Kent, AO (BOB ICS/BOB CCGs) |
| A4 | Discussions have already taken place with our local partners in terms of the key responsibilities of the role. The Job descriptions are currently being worked through with the support of our Human Resources, and Remuneration Committees, ensuring the required governance and benchmarking around national pay comparators and NHS guidelines have been considered. A draft JD is expected to be in place next week; followed by a round of engagement the week after; with a view to final agreement and circulation shortly after that. All the above is dependent upon awaited NSHE guidance. | |
| Q5 | How is BOB evaluating people's experiences of new community health approaches? Is there any assurance to CCG or BOB groups about that? | Catherine Mountford, Director of Governance (OX CCG) |
| A5 | Most of this work is undertaken by the service providers with support from the CCGs in place. As we develop our transition plan to establishing the ICS we will, in conjunction with partners, be reviewing our overall approach to patient and public engagement. The focus of this will be to ensure it is embedded in all our work at all levels. | |