Welcome to my update for June - July 2018, with news and highlights from around Hull CCG.

Hull CCG keeps its ‘outstanding’ rating

I want to begin with the very good news that for the second year running we have been rated ‘outstanding’ under NHS England’s annual assessment scores. We are one of only 20 CCGs in the country rated as ‘outstanding’ against new, stronger assessment criteria and a challenging year for the NHS.

I am, of course, delighted. It shows that we are on the right track with our strong team approach and partnerships, including our close working relationship with Hull City Council which has resulted in a joint financial plan for health and social care and shared process for reviewing and commissioning services. Other key developments include the new community frailty pathway, supporting general practices to come together to work on a larger scale within five practice groupings, and the work to redesign services within primary care to reduce the variation in quality and access for local patients.

I am immensely proud of my whole team for the work they do. The energy and commitment from everybody is huge - including all our GPs, Governing Body, health and other partners. This is great news for the city and the people we serve and I have been very touched by all the messages that we have received since the announcement.

NHS Funding settlement 2018-23

The recently announced NHS funding settlement of an average 3.4% growth over the next five years is very positive. New growth funding will give us opportunities to invest over the longer term in areas where we are not doing as well as we should, and we will ensure we continue to drive value for every pound we spend.

I am always aware, however, that public health and social care continue to experience the impact of austerity and we must continue to work together to support vital public services for people in the city.

Place based board update

KPMG has been engaged by the Hull City Council and ourselves to support the development of the Plan for the Hull Place Based Board across four key strands of work. These are Governance, the Beverley Road Corridor project, the Edge of Care project and domestic abuse. All partners are really engaged in the programme and hopefully will see some good outcomes by the end of the year.

Integrated Care Centre opening

It's no exaggeration to say that that Friday 6th July was one of the best days of my NHS career, when Jean Bishop BEM opened the Jean Bishop Integrated Care Centre (ICC) in front of more than 100 people.

The ICC has got off to a wonderful start, and we have already had some very heartwarming feedback from patients. I recently spent a morning there following a 90 year old lady and her carer around, with their permission, seeing first-hand how superb the new service is.

They went seamlessly from service to service at the centre feeling that the staff had time to discuss their issues and I felt that there was a very positive outcome for them at the end.

It isn’t a busy hospital environment - we have done this deliberately to give frail, vulnerable older people time to talk – sometimes about things that they have never had a chance to discuss before. Even the moment when Dave in the Café cuts the crust off their sandwiches adds to the overall caring and personable feel of the centre. I couldn’t be more proud - it is everything I could want for my own family and that we should be doing, in partnership with the council, community health services, mental health and voluntary sector.
The art of a good AGM

The Ferens Art Gallery was the venue for our fifth CCG Annual General Meeting. The Ferens is such a beautiful building to hold the meeting - its grand history and heritage makes it an excellent place to showcase the work of the CCG. Once again we had David ‘Burnsy’ Burns joining us from the BBC to chair our lively Question Time session. Thank you to everyone who attended and put us in the hotseat with your questions.

New Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

The recent reshuffle of a few cabinet ministers has seen the Rt. Hon Matt Hancock MP appointed Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

His recent background is as Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport where he championed the digital transformation of government.

Mr Hancock, in an interview for the HSJ, said that the NHS, and the principle of a healthcare system that is free at the point of delivery, is one of our country’s greatest achievements. He also promised to listen and learn and champion all the hard-working staff who make our NHS what it is today.

NHS North Future Talent Board

I’ve been very pleased to be asked to participate in one of NHS England and NHS Improvement’s new Talent Boards. As a group of CCG Chief Officers and Trust Chief Executives we are starting to look at how we develop the next cohort of clinical and managerial leaders in the NHS and also local authority leaders as we move to more integrated systems. It will be interesting to see how this project progresses.

Health and Care Awards

We are supporting the Hull Daily Mail’s Health and Care Awards for a third year. It’s always a wonderful and emotional awards evening with so many deserving people put forward for recognition.

Health and care workers across our area do a fantastic job year in, year out, but it is important not to overlook the many people who care for others, volunteer, or make a difference in the city as part of a charity or local group. These people put other people’s needs first, often while facing considerable challenges of their own.

We are encouraging people to nominate these individuals for a Health and Care Award. If you know someone who works tirelessly towards improving lives in your local area, then nominating an unsung hero through the Health and Care awards is a great way to say a huge thank you for the difference they make. Categories include outstanding health professionals, carers, care homes volunteers and health partnerships and local health heroes. Nominate at https://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/health/health-care-awards-2018-nominations-1745227

NHS 70 celebrations

We marked the 70th birthday of the NHS on 5 July 2018 in Hull with a number of special events, including the Hull and East Riding Expo at the Hilton Hotel. I think that the atmosphere was fantastic with the mix of school children, health organisations and voluntary services. The event really looked to inspire the future workforce the NHS is going to need. Everyone seemed very positive, buzzing and showing what a great place the NHS is to work in - the exuberance shone out.

Later in the day I hosted an afternoon tea for around forty long-serving NHS staff across Hull. I was delighted to meet a woman who has been working as a nurse and midwife for 50 years. She started her career in Hedon Road Women and Children's Hospital and she still works two nights a week - she needs a medal! It was great to see people who have given so much of their lives to the NHS.

We finished the day with the moving NHS commemoration service at York Minster, and it was great to see some of the most prominent buildings in Hull city centre were lit up in blue for the occasion.

It was a wonderful day to celebrate the best of the NHS with 70 years as the nation’s favourite public service, whilst looking forward to many more years.

Emma Latimer
NHS Hull CCG Chief Officer
July 2018