

Sunderland System Covid-19 Update

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
3 November 2021

David Chandler
Chief Officer/Chief Finance Officer



Will cover:

- Performance update
- Winter scheme summary
- Latest position for the vaccination programme



Performance Update

Referral to Treatment (RTT) - performance continues to be in a **strong** position

- Highest performance in NENC ICS.
- Over 52 week waiters = Aug'21 – 315 (continued reduction month on month)
- Over 18 week waiters = Aug'21 – 3,404 v 5,143 this time last year
- Additional activity commissioned from Independent Sector using additional national funding available
- Further bids submitted for national funding to increase elective capacity in quarter four 2021/22
- Urgent care pressures likely to impact on capacity going forward

Diagnostic testing - performance pressures in services like echocardiography and imaging

- Additional workforce in place for echocardiography with additional capacity commissioned by providers using national funding. Additional workforce also secured recurrently.
- Additional capacity for diagnostics in place via national funding and further bids submitted for additional national funding for echocardiography
- Community capacity in place for cardiology and respiratory diagnostics for latter part of 2021/22

Accident and Emergency (A&E) four hour wait performance **deteriorating** due to **significant** pressures throughout the system:

- Partnership approach to managing flow and pressures in the system (CCG, ATB, LA and STSFT)
- Additional resources deployed to key parts of urgent care system, increased surge arrangements coordinated by ATB
- Urgent care attendances remain significant across all areas, growing pressures in paediatrics
- Winter funding in the process of being agreed with additional national funding expected for general practice subject to agreement of plans.



Performance Update

Cancer performance remains challenging:

- Cancer referral performance volatile – referrals on two week wait (2WW) pathways now higher than pre-pandemic levels overall.
- Despite not delivering 2WW standard for breast symptoms, assurance provided that **vast majority of patients** being seen within 16 days and backlog continues to reduce in line with expectations
- Action plans in place – Northern Cancer Alliance working with providers and local areas around campaigns to increase referrals into cancer services
- Additional funding provided to deliver cancer improvement plans across the ICS focusing on case finding and rapid diagnostics

Mental health services – demand higher than last year after lockdown for children's mental health services and demand for Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) now showing signs of increase

- Referrals continue to be higher than 2019/20 so far in 2021/22, particularly for children's services
- Quarter 1 referrals 50% higher than pre-pandemic levels
- Additional funding agreed to help provide additional resources into children's mental health services whilst transformation of pathways takes place
- IAPT business case agreed and moving to mobilisation
- Work commissioned to improve the monitoring of outcomes for children for health and SEND



All Together Better Update

Philip Foster
Managing Director

Current System Pressures

- Winter 2021/22 is expected to be one of the most challenging experienced by public services. A “surge” in demand for health and social care is predicted. This “surge” will be caused by a combination of Covid, RSV (a respiratory virus that infects the lungs and breathing passages of children), flu, staffing pressures and current unprecedented demand.
- Health partners have been operating at unprecedented levels of demand.
 - We are seeing significant pressures on Emergency and Urgent care services
 - Ambulance services are operating at a sustained highest level of escalation
 - Primary care – including GP Practices – are in a similar position. They are also supporting the vaccination programme.
 - Social care under major pressures

Current System Pressures

- Challenges continue around flow and management of medically optimised patients out of hospital- mainly due to the numbers going through hospital, the levels of acuity of patients and sustained pressure on social care
- All partners are reporting workforce pressures.
- We need to recognise that staff have been involved in a national major incident since March 2020 and still are caring for people in a period of high demand.
- All partners have measures in place to support staff well-being
- Partners are working closely together and have a shared winter plan to co-ordinate activity, to prioritise work and manage winter pressures.

Current System Pressures

- The overall purpose of the Winter plan is to ensure that the system is able to effectively manage the capacity and demand pressures anticipated during the Winter period up to 31 March 2022.
- Our plans ensure that local systems are able to manage demand surge effectively and maintain patient safety and quality during this period
- For 21/22, the Winter Plan has considered the impact and learning from last Winter, as well as learning from the Summer period and the system response to Covid-19 to date.
- A senior leadership meeting has been put in place to quickly respond to issues and decisions
- Mechanisms for system-wide escalation have been agreed
- Throughout the Winter, the plan will be monitored, reviewed and updated in line with operational challenges to ensure we can support the health and care system sustainability

Vaccination Programme Update



Key points

- **420,907** doses in total given to Sunderland residents/staff
- 202,037 first doses given (Which equates to 84.8% of **total** eligible population vaccinated with one dose)
- 184,972 second doses given – 93.2% of those who have had 1st dose have now had a second.
- 30,584 booster doses given – 16.2% of eligible population



Vaccination Rates – 1st & 2nd Doses

Cohort	1 st dose % uptake	2 nd dose % uptake (of those who have had 1 st dose)
Older people care home residents	96.5%	98.1%
Over 80s	97.7%	99.2%
75-79yrs	98.0%	99.2%
70-74yrs	96.9%	99.2%
CEV	92.4%	96.7%
65-69 yrs	95.9%	99.2%
<65 at risk and carers (exc 12-15 yrs at risk)	90.5%	95.5%
60-64 yrs	93.1%	98.6%
55-59 yrs	91.6%	98.3%
50-54 yrs	88.3%	97.5%
40-49 yrs	82.8%	94.7%
30-39 yrs	72.4%	89.5%
18-29 yrs	69.6%	84.0%
16-17 yrs	61.7%	11.0%
12-15 yrs at risk	32.5%	0%



Booster Doses

- * percentage of those that have already had 2 doses

Cohort	Boosters given
Older people care home residents	78.1%
Over 80s	69.3%
75-79 yrs	59.0%
70-74 yrs	35.0%
Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV)	17.2%
65-69 yrs	7.0%
Under 65 'at risk'	7.2%



General update

- Clinics being held in 6 local PCN sites, community pharmacies and mass vaccination site – offering 1st, 2nd and booster doses
- 3rd primary course dose commenced end of September for those who have specific immunosuppression
- A number of healthy 12-15 yr olds have been vaccinated via School Immunisations Team, many co-administered with flu vaccine.
- For those that could not access a vaccination in a school setting there is an offer to vaccinate at either a local vaccination site or mass vaccination site (*details to be finalised*)



General update

- Phase 3 booster programme is now well established across all sites
- Majority of care home residents and now received both booster dose and flu vaccination
- Community Nursing Team are now vaccinating housebound patients and have vaccinated almost 500 residents in the last 10 days.



Health Inequalities & Vaccination Uptake

- Lower uptake in Millfield and Hendon wards (males in 40s and 50s)
- Already targeted these areas with roving clinics and leaflet drops/knocking on doors
- Meeting held with local Councillors for these wards to discuss further action required
- Agreed to revisit shelters/charities
- Liaising with Gentoo regarding 'pop up' clinics in areas such as flats/towers blocks in Hendon
- Looking to hold further pop up clinics at local Mosques and University to target students as were successful previously

