

Report Title: The Laurels GP-Led Health Centre

Report To: Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Report of: HTPCT Head of Primary Care (East)

Date: 4th November 2008

Introduction

On the 21st December 2007 the Department of Health published guidance entitled “DELIVERING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE: LOCAL PROCUREMENTS FOR GP PRACTICES AND HEALTH CENTRES” which gave each PCT in the country the responsibility to develop a GP-led health centre on it’s patch to improve access to GP services (See letter attached)

As Haringey is not considered to be under doctored no new monies were allocated to Haringey with the cost of the development and other associated service developments being funded locally from PCT resources.

Having considered these proposals and the need within them to undertake a prescribed procurement process HTPCT determined that the Laurels is the ideal site for this development in Haringey due to its size, location and accessibility. The choice of the Laurels will also enable HTPCT to divest itself of the only General Practice it manages itself thereby relieving itself of this provider role.

Proposal

The core criteria listed in the attached letter of the 21st December 2007 are as follows-

Core GP services

List size of at least 6000 patients (The PCT currently has over 6100 patients)

Plan to be an accredited training practice

Wide practice boundary

Open 8am-8pm, 7 days per week

Bookable GP appointments and walk in services

Registered and non-registered patients

This forms the basis of the specification HTPCT is in the process of developing as these are considered to be essential criteria which the PCT can choose to add to. HTPCT aim is to work with all stakeholders to develop these criteria further to meet local needs and to develop the centre across many Primary Care services to ensure it works in a joined-up/coordinated way for the benefit of all. Items being considered include diagnostic services, pharmacy, specialist services and outpatient provision. To this end the PCT is working closely in partnership with the SE Practice Based Commissioning Collaborative led by Dr J Pandya.

The outline specification published in the Memorandum of Information which is a public document on the PCT website which potential bidders are using as an initial guide is as follows

Service Requirements

The indicative requirements are based on the following primary medical care services, as detailed below.

This will be procured as an APMS contract (Alternative Provider Medical Service).

The services being procured are essential, additional and enhanced primary medical care services plus a walk in minor illness service.

Core services include all essential and additional services as defined in the nGMS contract and will be provided to all registered patients. They will also be made available to unregistered (including those registered elsewhere) patients. Where patients are unregistered anywhere they should be offered the opportunity to register with the service if they live within the Borough of Haringey.

In addition core services will include:

- suture removal
- post operative dressings
- phlebotomy (hours dependent on current opening times of local pathology laboratories and specimen collection/transport times)
- active follow up of patients who do not attend for routine breast screening
- the provision of LTC management clinics/appointments working to NSF and NICE guidelines and the call and recall of these patients

The following additional services will be required from the GP led Health Centre

- Cervical screening
- Child health surveillance
- Minor surgery
- Maternity medical services
- Contraceptive services
- Childhood immunisations and preschool boosters
- Vaccinations and immunisations

The following directed enhanced services will be required from the GP led Health Centre

- Childhood immunisations
- Childhood pneumococcal immunisation

- Influenza and pneumococcal immunisation
- Minor surgery

The following national enhanced services will be required from the GP led Health Centre

- IUCD fitting and removal
- Level 2 smoking cessation service

Other Clinical Services Requirements

Other clinical services, including local enhanced services, required from the GP led Health Centre are detailed below including routes of access. The following services will be provided to all patients registered with the GP led Health Centre and to people not registered with the practice (including those registered elsewhere) that wish to access the services (unless otherwise indicated).

Other Services	Catchment area	Mode of Access
Minor ailment service 7 days a week 8am to 8pm for 365 days per year	No catchment area	Walk in
Sexual health local service	Any patient resident in Haringey or registered with a Haringey GP	Internal referral, external referral and self referral
Alcohol brief assessment and intervention tool	All patients that are seen for core GP service and all patients who attend the minor ailments service	Walk in and booked appointments. Patients are assessed once only.
Drugs – emergency needle exchange	PCT wide	Walk in
Drugs – shared care	PCT wide	External referral from Haringey Drugs and Alcohol Service

Other Services	Catchment area	Mode of Access
Lifestyle clinics. These will be provided for people identified as at risk of developing LTCs and those already diagnosed. The focus will be on weight reduction, smoking cessation, exercise advice, alcohol and drugs advice and referral.	Any patient seen by the practice for core GP services or registered with another Haringey GP	Self referral and internal referral from nurses and GPs working with patients with CHD, diabetes and hypertension. Referrals to community matrons where appropriate

Other Clinical Services information that may be co-located but do not form Part of the procurement:

- Co location of Citizens advice bureau, or pensions and benefits advice
- Diagnostics such as ultrasound.

Timescale

The advert seeking a provider for the service outlined above was placed in the Health Service Journal on the 11th September with expressions of interest sought by 10th October 2008.

The timeline outlined in the letter of the 21st December 2007 has had to be amended locally in order to achieve the objective of having signed the contract with the new provider by the 31st March 2009.

The key dates are as follows-

Milestones	Date
Advert published and Expressions of Interest invited	11 th Sept 2008
MOI Published (web based)	10 th Sept 2008
Deadline for receipt of Expressions of Interest - 4.00pm	Fri 10 th Oct 2008
Bidder Information Day	Tue 21st Oct 2008
PQQ issued to potential Bidders who have expressed an EOI	10 th Oct to the 21 st Oct 2008
Deadline for receipt of potential Bidder Clarification Questions	7 th Nov 2008
Deadline for receipt of PQQ submissions	21 st Nov 2008
Completion of PQQ evaluation and communication of result	12 th Dec 2008

Invitation to Tender (ITT) issued to Bidders	19 th Dec 2008
Deadline for receipt of ITT bids	9 th Jan 2009

Consultation

Haringey Teaching PCT wishes to work closely with all stakeholders to ensure the new service builds on the strengths of the existing service and enhances them in line with the needs of the local population.

To this end the PCT has –

1. Created a project group made up of existing service providers at the Laurels to consider options for the future.
2. Written to 6000 residents in the area inviting them to meetings at the Laurels in order to discuss proposal and seek view. These meeting took place on the 28th, 29th and 30th October 2008.
3. Circulated a questionnaire to those 6000 residents seeking views. To date we have received over 150 responses.
4. Committed to writing again to all residents giving feedback to the meetings and questionnaire
5. Committed to produce regular newsletters throughout the procurement process which will be available to all in paper form at the Laurels
6. Created space on the HTPCT website to post updated information and articles regarding the Laurels and the process.
7. Committed to having a local resident on the procurement panel with senior PCT managers and clinicians.
8. Begun the process of consulting affected staff.

On top of this, as part of the development of a Primary Care Strategy for Haringey the PCT has commissioned a doorstep survey of 1000 patients and has received initial feedback that shows

- Patients want better access to GPs
- Patients want to be able to access a GP in the evening after work and at weekends
- Patients want to see a healthcare professional at a time that they need it, not necessarily in A&E or through NHS Direct
- Patients want a greater range of services and want to be treated with courtesy , dignity and compassion from healthcare professionals

Conclusion

HTPCT see the development of a GP-led Health Centre at the Laurels as a unique opportunity to develop and comprehensive, high quality Primary Service for South East Tottenham and its patients.

To ensure what is delivered is fit for purpose the PCT is committed to ensuring residents can influence those areas of service which are for local determination via local involvement and consultation and would appreciate comment from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as to any areas it considers the PCT should strengthen to achieve this goal.

NB At the meeting I hope to give feedback from the consultation meeting held and on the questionnaires returned to date.