



Health and Wellbeing Board

6 November 2013

Report Title	A Joint Strategy for the Provision of Urgent and Emergency Care for Patients using Services in Wolverhampton to 2016/17	
Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility	Councillor Sandra Samuels Health and Wellbeing	
Wards Affected	All	
Accountable Strategic Director	Sarah Norman, Community	
Originating service	Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust	
Accountable officer(s)	Dr Morgans Dr Odum Tel Email	WCCG Governing Body Member, GP lead RWT Medical Director 01902 444878 r.modiri@nhs.net <i>Media enquiries are handled for Wolverhampton CCG by the Central Midlands CSU Media Team - telephone: 0121 612 3888 email: mediacsu@nhs.net</i>

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Approve the proposals as set out in the Strategy document;
2. Supports the consultation document and engagement plan.

Recommendations for noting:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note:

1. The limitations for the consultation process.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Well Being Board with the draft Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy for Wolverhampton for approval. The recommendations from the Health and Well Being Board in July 2013 have been incorporated within the draft strategy document.
- 1.2 The Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy has been developed for the city of Wolverhampton and for patients who reside elsewhere but who use our services. The strategy describes a cohesive response to the significant pressures seen within the urgent and emergency care system to ensure that the future system can flex to manage surges in activity, is high quality and affordable for the local health economy. The existing system was not designed to cope with the levels of activity being seen at urgent and emergency care services across the city and can be confusing and complex for patients to navigate. Doing nothing is not an option.
- 1.3 In anticipation of the Health and Well Being Board's support for the strategy and the limitations on possible dates for consultation, a Communication Plan has been developed together with a Consultation Document to prepare for the consultation process. Patients have helped us to develop these documents.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) are wholly committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our population. We have worked with our health and social care partners to develop a joint urgent and emergency care strategy for patients from Wolverhampton and for those who use our services.
- 2.2 The pressure seen by the urgent and emergency care system in Wolverhampton is unsustainable. Performance on a number of important indicators has worsened over the winter period in 2012 and has continued into 2013. Indicators including how quickly patients are seen, discharged or admitted at the Emergency Department are particularly affected. This deterioration is also reflected in the experience and quality of care patients receive.
- 2.3 This strategy is centred on improving service provision by examining the whole urgent and emergency care system and describing the proposed arrangements for the future system in Wolverhampton until 2016/17. The strategy focuses on urgent and emergency care however it is interlinked with other strategies being developed for the city such as primary care, long term conditions, mental health, end of life care, health inequalities and intermediate care amongst others. Short to medium term solutions are being developed alongside the strategy and will be delivered in 2013/14.
- 2.4 This strategy intends to improve quality and translates local and national policy into action, outlines the local context, current activity and defines how the vision for urgent

and emergency care will be delivered through a simplified, proactive and flexible system that directs patients to the right service in the right place at the right time.

2.5 There are 4 phases to the delivery of the strategy including:

Phase 1 – Consult (Dec 13-Dec 14)

- Publish strategy & consult to understand patient & stakeholder views
- Work with patients & local partners to develop regular & consistent communication methods & promotional campaigns
- Work with Equality leads to undertake an equality impact assessment
- Include the outcomes of the consultation to develop an implementation plan

Phase 2 – IMPROVING PRIMARY CARE (Nov 13 -Dec 16)

- Work with our patients and partners to make changes in Primary Care including a GP home visiting scheme and improving timely access to GP practices
- Improve the quality and integration of out of hours services into the new Urgent Care Centre in 2016
- Develop the required primary care provision required at the front door of ED, test and embed the model working towards 2016
- Develop improved high quality, integrated pathways of care across primary and secondary care supported by telephone access through NHS 111 and WUCTAS
- Undertake focused work on over 65 years (including care homes) and 0-5 years

Phase 3 – IMPROVING SECONDARY CARE (Nov 13-Dec 16)

- Work with our patients and partners to make changes in Secondary Care including service provision and improving timely access
- Work together to develop the new Emergency Department
- Develop standards of care including senior decision makers at the start of the patients journey from ED
- Work with local authority partners to improve rapid access to social care and seamless service provision across health and social care including care homes
- Work with Mental Health partners to improve urgent and emergency care provision and response times for patients in crisis

Phase 4 – REVIEW & AMEND (On-going)

- On-going review of system capacity during changes in phases 1-3 & identify additional changes required to respond to surges in activity
- On-going review of efficiencies and reinvest finances to manage future growth
- Continually develop the IT systems and information sharing required ensuring data is accurate, timely & routinely used
- Monitor activity to identify negative impacts on services further to changes being implemented
- Work with other commissioning areas to develop the urgent care elements of strategies (mental health, social care, end of life, public health, etc) to prevent ED attendance and emergency admissions
- Continue to work with partners and providers such as public health and WMAS to deliver improvements in the quality of service provision for patients

2.6 A consultation plan and supporting patient consultation document has been developed with patients, for patients. The timescales for the Consultation are not yet confirmed however are expected to start in December 2013. The consultation process must end before the 'Purdah' period begins (dates are not yet known). It is envisaged that once the public consultation is complete, a feedback report will be available to update the public on any changes to our plans.

2.7 The Health and Well Being Board's support is vital in taking the strategy work forward.

2.8 The draft strategy will be presented to the Health Scrutiny Panel on Thursday 7th November 2013 together with feedback from the Health and Well Being Board.

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

3.1 Further to the Health and Well Being Board in July 2013, the Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board have considered the valued feedback from members and work has been undertaken to further develop the joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy to incorporate the required changes.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 The strategy provides the strategic direction for urgent and emergency care in Wolverhampton. Any savings and financial implications of the strategy will be developed within the implementation plan for strategy delivery.

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 Procurement and legal implications will be incorporated as part of the programme planning work and will included within the implementation plan.

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 The Urgent and Emergency Care Board is fully committed to promoting equality of opportunity, eliminating unlawful and unfair discrimination and valuing diversity, so that we can remove or minimise disadvantages between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. All Urgent and Emergency Care services will ensure that services are appropriate and do not discriminate on the basis of the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or beliefs, sex and sexual orientation. Where services are required based on age, the reason will be on the grounds of service provision such as children's services or services aimed specifically at older adults due to the nature of their conditions. Further details can be found in Appendix 1 of the strategy document. The rights and pledges contained in the NHS Constitution will be upheld at all stages of the patient journey through Urgent and Emergency Care.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 Procurement and legal implications will be incorporated as part of the programme planning work and will be included within the implementation plan. The new Emergency Department building will be required as part of the strategy work to support the system changes required.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 Workforce planning will be part of the individual service changes.

9.0 Schedule of background papers

9.1 Version 10 of the Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy was presented to the Health and Well Being Board in July 2013.

10.0 Key Risks

10.1 Key risks relating to the strategy process

10.1.1 The consultation period must start in December due to the limitations on consulting during the Purdah period (dates not yet known);

10.1.2 The development of the business case for the new Urgent and Emergency Centre is required by March 2014 due to the enabling and building works to facilitate the new Urgent and Emergency Centre opening in early 2016. Any delays in the strategy sign off or the consultation process will cause significant consequences to the business case approval and subsequently the building process;

10.1.3 The existing contracts for services such as the walk in centre at Showell Park and the GP Out of Hours service are due to expire in 2014. Decisions must be made by December 2013 to support the future of commissioning of these services.

10.2 Key risks relating to the Strategy:

10.2.1 If change to the system is not delivered, key quality measures are likely to be missed;

10.2.2 Our patients have told us that they are confused about how and where to access urgent and emergency care and are using ED as a default. Without the changes to simplify the system there will continue to be additional pressure over sustained periods of time – patients using the Emergency Department, walk in centres, GP Practices and the West Midlands Ambulance Service will be particularly affected;

10.2.3 Patients are using the ED in the out of hours period rather than accessing the GP out of hours service due to difficulties with accessibility, location and confusion on operating hours and accepted conditions. Existing contracts are limiting changes being made to service provision – this cannot be sustained;

- 10.2.4** The existing Emergency Department was not designed to cope with the existing level of patients using the service. A new centre is required to reduce risk to patient care due to limited space. The building will also provide the opportunity to bring services together and deliver the national agenda for services to provide a 24/7 urgent and emergency care response to patients using services;
- 10.2.5** There are significant financial implications for the health economy resulting from the increases in activity and particularly the Emergency Department. The future system must be affordable for the future;
- 10.2.6** The implications of changes at Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust are not yet known however there is a risk that the existing system in Wolverhampton will not cope with additional activity from neighbouring CCG's unless change is made;
- 10.2.7** The increased pressures and the onset of winter will result in a further decline in the quality of patient care.

October 2013

Draft Communications, Engagement and Consultation Plan

Communications to tell the story

A schedule of communications will take place between October and December in order to inform clinicians and staff within our organisations, partner organisations, patient/community groups and the public about the forthcoming consultation. The objective will be AIDA – to get attention, leading to interest, leading to people’s desire to take part, and leading to action – i.e. attending an event or completing a feedback form.

Message principles and process

- All messages will be agreed and issued jointly by WCCG and RWT;
- Communications will be shared across ‘owned and earned channels’ – the free things like internal newsletters and social media, but also through local media and information cascades within community and patient groups.
- All written pieces will include a quote from clinical leads from both organisations.
- All messages will uphold the NHS communications values:
 - Clear and professional: demonstrating pride and authority in what we do.
 - Cost-effective: showing that budgets have been used wisely.
 - Straightforward: avoiding gimmicks and over complicated design or wording.
 - Modern: portraying the NHS in a way that is up to date.
 - Accessible: understood by the target audience and easily obtainable and, where appropriate, available in other languages, symbols or formats.
 - Honest: avoiding misleading information or false promises.
 - Respectful: showing respect for our audience, avoiding unfair stereotypes, acknowledging the different needs of individuals and populations.

Activity

There will be the following communications messaging activity (please note timescales will be determined when the project timeline are confirmed).

Audience	Date	Action	Key message
Public	Oct 13 – March 14	<i>(Part of another strategy)</i> Choose well campaign will run across various media – twitter, web, press, radio and phone app.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages residents to choose the right service for their urgent and emergency care.

Internal	Late Oct 13	<p>Joint message to GPs and staff within the CCG, social care and public health – this will be run through respective internal communications channels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team W (GPs – 23 Oct) • Practice Managers Forum (29 Oct) • CCG intranet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the review, reasons for undertaking it and set out overarching consultation approach.
Stakeholder /public	Late Oct/early Nov 13	<p>Message to key stakeholders including councillors, providers, neighbouring CCGs and patient groups through the CCG's Partner News newsletter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the pressure we see as we head into winter; • Urge people to 'choose well' and why it's important; • Explain the review, reasons for undertaking it and set out overarching consultation approach.
Public	Late Oct 13	<p>Media release featuring a quote from key clinical leads, linked to pressures or something else seasonal/topical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the pressure we see as we head into winter; • Urge people to 'choose well' and why it's important; • Explain the review, reasons for undertaking it and set out overarching consultation approach.
CCG staff	13 Nov 13	<p>Team meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to reiterate the review, share feedback from Health and Wellbeing Board, and explain the consultation process/timescales.
Stakeholder /public	Mid November 13	<p>Filming key clinical leads and members of public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask public about their experiences and pull-out key issues and themes; • Film clinical leads explaining the proposed solutions.
GPs	27 Nov 13	<p>Team W presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to reiterate the review, share feedback from Health and Wellbeing Board, and explain the consultation process/timescales.
Public	Late Nov 13	<p>Web content</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main banner on web home page to dedicated to the forthcoming urgent care strategy.

Public	Early Dec 13	Media release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting season messages around access; • Trailing the consultation, inviting people to have their say on urgent care through a 12 week public consultation.
Public	Late Dec/Early	Express and Star advertorial in the 'new year, new you' promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will promote the consultation events and invite people to complete a survey.
Consultation runs 6 January – 6 April			
Public	Jan 14	12 Hours in A&E – live tweeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live tweeting from A&E to highlight the pressures, problems, mis-use and heart-warming stories over a 12 hour period; • Promote opportunities for people to have their say.
Public	w/c 6 Jan 14	Media release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the start of the consultation. Offer an interview with clinical leads or senior management figures to explain the vision for urgent/emergency care and how people can get involved.

Communications tools

The following communications tools will be developed in order to support understanding of the changes we are proposing and reasons for making them:

- Consultation document that explains the problems, proposals for change and how to take part;
- Single page fact sheet that summarises the consultation document for sharing across staff/stakeholder/public groups;
- FAQ database – this will be added-to when new questions arise;
- Social media including Facebook, Twitter and Netmums – these will offer debating forums where views can be captured;
- Videos – include interview with key clinical leads and patients/members of public (talking heads);
- PowerPoint pack to help PPGs, patient and community groups to cascade information on the consultation;
- Web site (www.wolverhamptonccg.nhs.uk/urgentcare) containing information, all key documents and also survey;
- Blog by clinicians and staff at urgent/emergency care centres allowing feedback and discussion with members of the public;
- Web survey, replicating the survey at the back of the consultation document

- A6 post cards promoting the consultation in ‘light engagement’ venues such as school nurseries, libraries and other community venues;
- Advertising in local media, billboards and cinemas will be explored.

Consultation methodology (all to run within the consultation period)

- 3 locality ‘round table’ meetings – South East, South West and North East – primarily aimed local residents;
- One city-wide event at a central venue – aimed at partners/stakeholders, patients and public;
- Drop-in sessions/a stand at the key urgent and emergency care centres through-out the consultation period;
- Information will be shared throughout all of the CCG’s engagement groups (see below), providing advice and the opportunity for people to take part:
 - Joint Engagement Assurance Group (JEAG)
 - GP Practice Partnership
 - Patient and Public Partnership
 - Clinician and Allied Professionals’ Forum
 - Community Leaders’ Forum
 - GP Locality Groups
 - PPG Locality Groups
 - Patient Partners (members scheme)
- We will consult the Wolverhampton Equality Forum to ensure our consultation is accessible for hard-to-engage groups;
- The consultation will meet the requirements and principles contained within the One City Community Engagement Strategy.

Key stakeholders

- Service users and public
- Carers Service
- GPs and practice staff
- Staff (broken down to staff group if necessary i.e. frontline, commissioning etc)
- Management: senior managers, Governing Body members
- Other Primary Care colleagues (dentists, pharmacists, opticians)
- Local committees (Medical/Dental/Pharmaceutical/Ophthalmic)
- Wolverhampton Public Health
- City Council including councillors
- Other civic partners such as police, fire and ambulance
- Businesses/employers e.g. Chamber of Commerce
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC): Carl Craney (Carl.Craney@wolverhampton.gov.uk)
- Health and Wellbeing Board: Earl Piggott-Smith (earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk)
- Local Councillors and MPs – contact the Communications and Engagement Team for the latest list of these including information on their key areas of interest
- Healthwatch Wolverhampton (Chair: Maxine Bygrave - mbygrave@me.com)
- Other NHS partners (providers, neighbouring CCGs, NHS England)
- Media
- Third and voluntary sector
- Community and social groups (e.g. residents’ associations)

- School, college and university students
- Nursery schools

Feedback Requirements

Further to the consultation process, a feedback document will be developed for patients and stakeholders to update them on the outcomes of the consultation process.

DRAFT

Plans for Urgent & Emergency Care in Wolverhampton

Have your say



Proposals from Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust for improving the quality of
urgent and emergency care in Wolverhampton – Working in Partnership

Consultation from December 2013 to February 2014



Welcome

Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust are working together to improve the quality of the services we deliver.

We'd like to invite you to give us comments on our proposal to improve urgent and emergency care in Wolverhampton.

More and more people are using urgent and emergency care services every year and the system wasn't designed to cope with these numbers. We need to make system-wide changes now to make sure that we can continue to provide high quality services in the future. **Doing nothing is not an option.**

We have already spoken to hundreds of local people to get their views on how our services can be improved to help develop our plans. We want to make sure that our proposals for urgent and emergency care meet the needs of people using the services in Wolverhampton and we'd like to hear from you.

We hope you will read our consultation document and tell us what you think. There will be plenty of opportunities for you to have your say over the next three months. We will then review all your feedback and build this into our plans.

Your views are really important to us. We need your help to build an urgent and emergency care system for the future.



Dr Julian Morgans
GP Clinical Lead
Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group



Dr Jonathan Odum
Medical Director
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust



How we plan to improve urgent and emergency care

We aim to simplify and improve urgent and emergency care services so that they are used in the best way by everyone. This is our plan for how we want to improve the city's urgent and emergency care in the future.

At the heart of our plans is the move to bring together some of the city's urgent and emergency care services into one building, which is expected to open in early 2016. This will be a brand new purpose-built centre will be open 24 hours per day and 365 days per year at New Cross Hospital.

We don't have a name for the new building yet but for now we will call it the new **Urgent and Emergency Centre**.

Patients will go through one door and will be directed to the best service to deal with their urgent or emergency care problem – whether that is to see a GP, a nurse or an emergency department doctor.

The new centre will bring the existing Emergency Department (sometimes known as ED, A&E or Casualty), the GP out of hours service and the walk-in service provided at Showell Park into one building at New Cross Hospital. All the other services in the Showell Park building will stay the same.

Wolverhampton CCG also plans to improve the other services that work alongside urgent and emergency care, including access to GP appointments, the management of long term conditions and end of life care, so that everyone gets the right care, in the right place, the first time.

Why do you call it ED and not A&E or Casualty?

ED or Emergency Department is the term that is used in many places across the country to describe the department most of us know as A&E or casualty. Changes to emergency medicine have encouraged the term Emergency Department to be used rather than A&E because it describes what happens when you attend the ED – it is for emergency treatment.

We believe the term more accurately describes the service and makes it easier for people to know where to get help in an emergency.

Right care, right place, first time

We will help patients to understand where to go for their urgent and emergency care needs through regular promotional campaigns. Lots of patients have told us their main reason for choosing to go to ED or a walk-in centre is due to difficulties in getting a GP appointment. Over the next three years, we will aim to make it easier for people to reach their GP practice through telephone, internet or face to face appointments.

We will also bring some of the existing services together into a state-of-the-art centre that will provide higher quality care in more comfortable and pleasant surroundings. It will be able to cope better during busy periods and can be adapted to meet the changing needs of people in the years ahead.

NHS 111 will continue to be available for patients to help them to choose the right place to go for their urgent care need.

Improving quality

Experienced doctors and nurses will be available early on in a patient's care to make decisions on the best service to treat them. Staff will work together so that if a patient needs urgent or emergency care quickly, the right people are available to see and treat them.

Working 24/7

The new centre at New Cross Hospital will be open 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. It will also have a rapid response visiting service that will be available for patients who need urgent care fast, but can't get to the centre. These could be people in residential or nursing homes, for example.

Changes to the system in 2016/17

The Urgent and Emergency Care System Now

Open 8am - 6.30pm mostly Mon - Fri	Open 24/7	Open 10am - 7pm Mon - Sun	Open 8am - 8pm Mon - Sun	Open Mon-Fri 6.30pm-8am Open Sat-Sun 24 hours	Open 24/7
GP Practices	NHS 111	Walk-in Centre at the Phoenix Centre	Walk-in Centre at Showell Park	Phoenix Centre Out of Hours	Emergency Department



The Urgent and Emergency Care System in the Future

Open 8am - 6.30pm mostly Mon - Fri	Open 24/7	Open 10am - 7pm Mon - Sun	Open 24/7
GP Practices	NHS 111	Walk-in Centre at the Phoenix Centre	Emergency Department



What is urgent and emergency care?

The terms urgent and emergency can mean different things to different people. With so many services available, it's no wonder that our patients have told us they are unsure about the different options available to them.

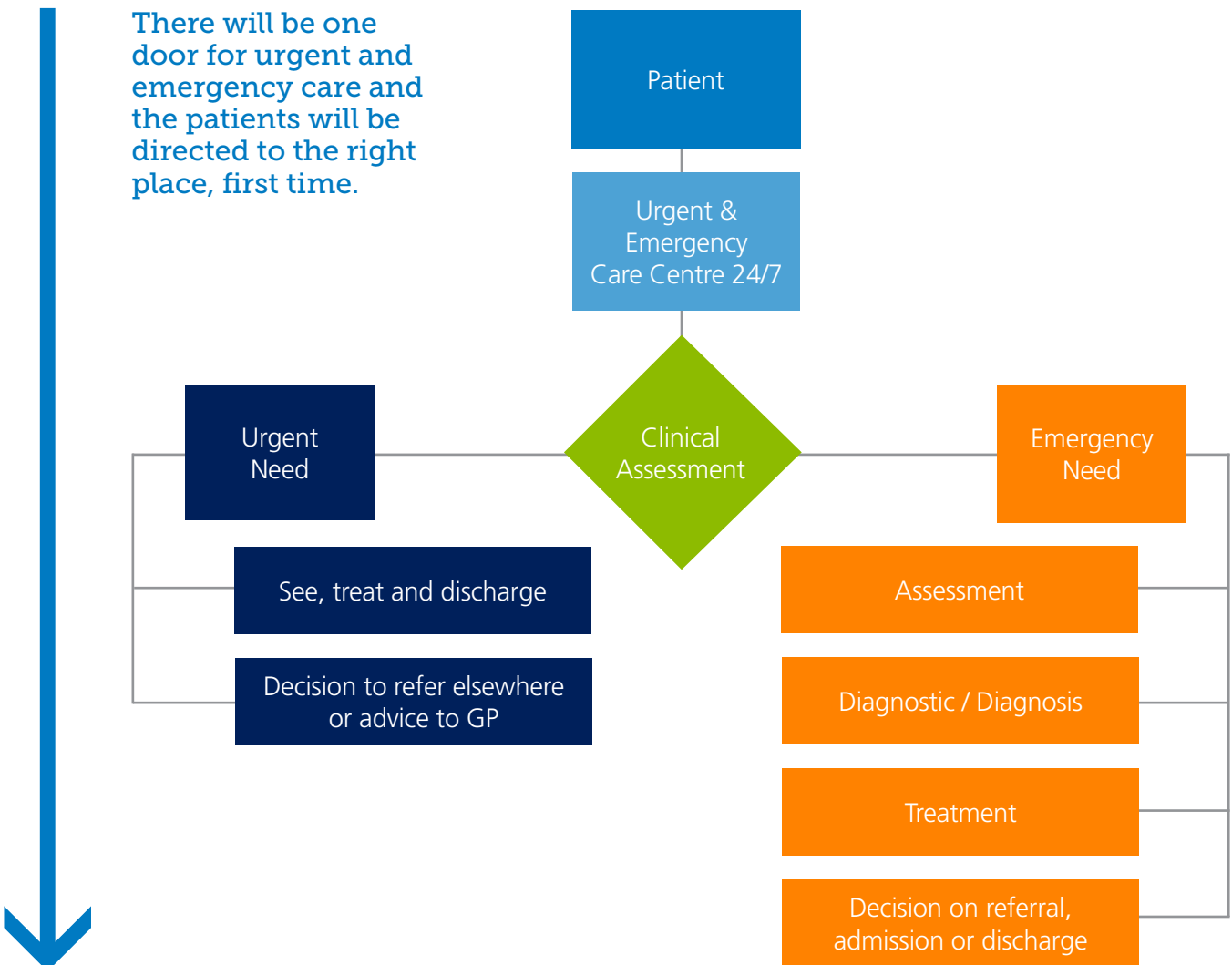
Urgent care

For minor illnesses or injuries where you can't wait for a routine appointment to see a doctor or nurse. These could include ear pain, rash, headache, minor burns and scalds, sprains and wounds. You can get urgent advice or treatment from a pharmacist (a chemist), NHS 111, a GP or a walk-in centre and, when your GP practice is closed, the GP out of hours service.

Emergency care

For life-threatening illnesses or injuries. These could include chest pains, loss of consciousness, severe loss of blood, choking, fits that aren't stopping or breathing difficulties. If you experience any of these symptoms you should dial 999 immediately.

The new Urgent and Emergency Department *the right care, the first time*



How did we develop our plans?

Senior doctors have led the process of developing our plans. We know the only way of getting the right urgent and emergency care system is by working with local patients and partner organisations. We have spent almost a year talking to patients, doctors, nurses and the public to develop a strategy, and have considered different ways of changing the system.

December 2012	We talked to a total of 180 users of urgent and emergency care services through surveys and focus groups on how they used services and what they perceived the problems to be.
December 2012 – June 2013	We reviewed information on how people use our services and how much they cost. We also spoke to many organisations that are involved with health and social care to get their views.
March – April 2013	We surveyed doctors and nurses and held a patient and public workshop. Both allowed us to test some of our thoughts about how we might tackle the problems we have identified. We looked at many alternatives – including doing nothing – but there was clear support for changing the urgent and emergency care system as a whole.
12-13 July 2013	We surveyed visitors to our stall at the Wolverhampton City Show in West Park on their general experiences of using urgent and emergency care and how they felt these could be improved.
July 2013	We brought all the feedback and information together to design our urgent and emergency care strategy.
31 July 2013	We presented a draft strategy to the city's Health and Wellbeing Board. Here we received important recommendations on how we should improve the draft strategy.
August – October 2013	We worked with patient representatives to design a public consultation, taking into account the needs of local people such as accessibility, how to keep people updated and involved, and what questions we should ask. We also continued the work to update the strategy.
November 2013	We agreed that the strategy should go out for public consultation.



Choose Well when you are unwell

There's a range of NHS services on your doorstep...

Choking
Chest pain
Blackout
Blood loss



ED or 999

Life-threatening
situations and
emergencies

Unwell?
Unsure?
Confused?
Need help?



NHS 111



When you need
medical help fast
but it's not a 999
emergency

Cuts
Strains
Itches
Sprains



Walk-in Centre

Open until late
for minor injuries
and illnesses

Vomiting
Ear pain
Sore belly
Back ache



Your GP

If you have an illness
or injury that won't
go away, make an
appointment with
your GP

Diarrhoea
Runny nose
Painful cough
Headache



Pharmacy

For advice on
common illnesses
and medicines to
treat them

Hangover
Grazed knee
Sore throat
Cough



Self-care

Stock up your
medicine
cupboard at
home



Why do we need to change?

The pressure in urgent and emergency care is a problem right across England. Whilst we would expect winter to be very busy, this year pressure has continued into the summer, which is causing longer waits and rising costs.

Patients tell us they can't get a GP appointment, or they don't know where to go when they have an urgent need. More and more people are choosing to use the walk-in centres and ED rather than their own GP.

The system wasn't designed to cope with the numbers of patients using the services today. Small fixes have been made to services, but there is a need to make system-wide changes. **Doing nothing is not an option.**

We need to make changes to urgent and emergency care services so that they are sustainable, high quality and work better together.

Services are duplicated and patients find them confusing

Our patients tell us that the current system is confusing. Having so many places to choose from can often result in people going from one service to another before they get the treatment they need. Patients don't know which service to go to at different times of the day or week.

Did you know?

In a survey we conducted almost one third of people said they had to visit two or more services to be treated when needing urgent / emergency care.

Some patients find it hard to get an appointment with their GP

Patients have told us that they find it difficult to get a GP appointment when they want one, or they don't even call their GP in the first place because they don't think they will get an appointment. GPs often are the 'first call' to the NHS but when patients find them difficult to reach, they end up using other services where they know they will be seen. This means some patients attend ED for minor illnesses or injuries. It is far better for these patients to be treated by a local GP or nurse who knows about all their healthcare needs.

Did you know?

In a survey we conducted, 56% of users of urgent / emergency services said they had tried to go to their GP first.

Increased use by patients

More and more people are using urgent and emergency care services. Therefore, we need to make changes now so that all services remain high quality and affordable.

Your local NHS working together

The NHS organisations responsible for buying, monitoring and providing care in Wolverhampton are working together to improve urgent and emergency care.



Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group

Formed in April 2013, Wolverhampton CCG is responsible for buying and monitoring healthcare for the city's 249,000 residents. These services range from routine surgery, home visits and learning disability services to the ambulance service and emergency care from local hospitals and NHS trusts. We are led by the city's GPs and nurses and spend £326m a year with the aim of providing people with the right care, in the right place, the first time.

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

One of the largest NHS providers in the West Midlands, the trust provides hospital and community services for the people of Wolverhampton, the Black Country, South Staffordshire and the wider West Midlands.

With an operating budget of £374m, it employs more than 6,700 people and has more than 800 beds on two sites.

Our health and social care partners

South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG

Serves a population of approximately 210,000 patients from Tamworth, Lichfield and South Staffordshire (Seisdon). Some of the patients from Seisdon Peninsula in particular use the ED service at New Cross Hospital. Seisdon consists of nine GP practices looking after a population of approximately 55,000.

Walsall CCG

Made up of 63 GP practices from across Walsall, serving about 270,000 people. Some of Walsall CCG's patients use the ED service at New Cross Hospital.

Wolverhampton City Council

Ensures that the social care needs of people who live in the city are met. The council works closely with Wolverhampton CCG to help people stay at home rather than go into hospital wherever possible. Both organisations are also working to tackle areas of poor health in Wolverhampton with the aim of helping residents to live longer, healthier lives.

Cannock Chase CCG

Made up of 27 GP practices serving a population of approximately 132,000. Some of Cannock Chase CCG's patients also use the ED service at New Cross Hospital.

Healthwatch

Responsible for making sure the public's voice is included in changes or developments that are made in healthcare and that they are in the best interests of patients.

West Midlands Ambulance Service

Provides the urgent and emergency 999 ambulance service to the West Midlands region, including Wolverhampton.

Black Country Partnership (BCP)

Provides mental health, learning disabilities and community healthcare services for people of all ages in Wolverhampton and the Black Country.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will my views help?

We want to make sure our plans for urgent and emergency care meet the needs of people using services in Wolverhampton. We've already asked some local people how they thought our services could be improved and used this information to help develop our plans. Now we'd like to hear from a wider group to help to build our detailed plans for urgent and emergency care services.

Why are you investing money in urgent care?

People aren't sure where to go. The current system can result in patients going from one service to another before they get the treatment they need. For people who need urgent care, we want to make sure the system is easier to understand and is improved.

Doing nothing is not an option. More and more people are using urgent and emergency care services every year. We want to continue to provide high quality services that we can afford in the future. If we don't make changes now, we will have big problems in the future because existing services won't be able to cope.

We want to improve the quality of urgent and emergency care services in Wolverhampton. By bringing some of the services and GPs, nurses and hospital doctors together, we can offer a better service, which will be available 24/7.

Are you making changes to save money?

This isn't about cost-cutting. We want to make these changes so that our urgent and emergency services remain high quality in the future. Sometimes the current services don't perform well (long waiting times, for example). We would like to improve and simplify urgent and emergency care in the city.

How will the new building at New Cross Hospital make it easier for me to use urgent care services?

It's essential that we direct patients to the best service for them. The new centre will be staffed by highly skilled doctors and nurses who are experienced in assessing and treating patients to give them the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

How will the changes make it easier for me to know where to go in the future?

People have told us that the services available now are confusing. They are open at different times of the day and week and treat different problems. By moving the GP out of hours and Showell Park walk-in services to the front door of the emergency department, we will make it much easier for people to know where to go. We would also like to make it easier for people to go to their GP in an urgent situation.

From 2016/17, where should I go if I need urgent care in normal working hours?

There is a service called NHS 111 that has already started in Wolverhampton to make it easier for people to know where to go for their urgent care. You can call 111 from a telephone when you have a condition that isn't life-threatening. They could advise you to rest at home or to go to a pharmacy, your GP, Phoenix Walk-in Centre or the new Urgent Care Centre at New Cross Hospital.

From 2016/17, where should I go if I need urgent care at night or at weekends?

NHS 111 can help at any time of the day or week. Call 111 if you have a condition that isn't life-threatening and trained advisors will help you choose the service that's best for you.

Will waiting times at New Cross be shorter?

Our plans will bring services and staff together and as a result, we are aiming to reduce the waiting times for patients using the new Urgent and Emergency Centre.



Who will pay for the new centre?

Local Clinical Commissioning Groups pay for the urgent and emergency care treatment that patients registered with GP practices in their area receive. The building of the new Urgent and Emergency Centre at New Cross Hospital is being funded mostly by the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, but the services within it are paid for by local CCGs.

Why do you want to move walk-in services at Showell Park and not from the Phoenix Centre?

Many patients who use Showell Park also use ED, sometimes on the same day. By moving the walk-in service from Showell Park, we can minimise duplication by bringing the services together under one roof.

What will happen to the other services at Showell Park?

All other services, including the GP practice, will stay the same.

How will the proposed plan make it easier for me to get an urgent appointment with my GP?

We want to work with local GPs to improve their booking systems to make it easier for them to give urgent appointments when patients need them. We would also like to work with single-handed GP practices to encourage them to combine into larger groups.

If your plan will make it easier for me to get an urgent appointment with my GP, why does an Urgent and Emergency Centre at New Cross Hospital have to be open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year?

Even if every surgery could meet all its patients' urgent requests during normal opening hours, a large number of people with urgent needs would still go to the hospital. We need to make sure that the right services are available for them.

How will I get to the new centre?

There are buses that go to the New Cross site already, this will stay the same. There is also a new car park being built for people who use the new centre.

How will I get a prescription at the new centre?

There is a pharmacy at New Cross Hospital.

What will happen to urgent eye problems?

There will be no change to the process for patients who attend ED with urgent or emergency eye problems.

I don't live in Wolverhampton but I use ED at New Cross Hospital – what does it mean for me?

Patients living elsewhere in the country who need urgent and emergency care at New Cross Hospital will be treated in the same way as Wolverhampton residents. Patients will go through one front door of the new Urgent and Emergency Centre and will be directed by a clinician to the best place for their treatment (either the Urgent Care Centre or the Emergency Department) 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

If I don't live in Wolverhampton, who will pay for my urgent and emergency care?

Most users of Wolverhampton's urgent and emergency care services who don't live in the city come from neighbouring CCG areas. CCGs are responsible for paying for treatment for their patients, whether they use services where they live or in another part of the country. For example, if a patient from Walsall uses ED at New Cross Hospital, Walsall CCG will pay for their treatment. We have been working with CCGs who have the highest numbers of patients who attend the New Cross ED to make sure that their patients are considered in these changes.

Get Involved – Have Your Say

We really value your views. From 2 December 2013 to 2 March 2014, we will be asking for your comments.

Please complete this form and send it back to us by 2 March 2014. We will review all your feedback and share our key findings with you in April 2014.

Email us to get involved
 email address TBC

Please tick one of the following:

I am responding to these plans as:

I agree strongly with the plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
I agree with the plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
I disagree with the plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
I disagree strongly with the plans	<input type="checkbox"/>

An individual	<input type="checkbox"/>
A representative of an organisation or group	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is there anything else you would like to add?

What is the name and location of the group or organisation that you are representing?

We would like to know a bit more about you. This part is optional:

What is your gender?

What is your ethnic group?

Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>

British White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other White	<input type="checkbox"/>
British Black	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Black (African or Caribbean)	<input type="checkbox"/>

British Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>
British Mixed Race	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Mixed Race	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/>

What is your age group?

Under 18 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
19-40 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
41-60 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
61-80 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over 81 years	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide the first four characters of your postcode.

This will only allow us to see the area you live, but not the house or street.

Please return this form to us by 2 March 2014

Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group
 Technology Centre, Wolverhampton Science Park,
 Glaisher Drive, Wolverhampton WV10 9RU

Thank you for helping us to shape the future of healthcare in Wolverhampton.

DRAFT

A Joint Strategy for the Provision of Urgent and Emergency Care for Patients using Services in Wolverhampton to 2016/17

*“Improving and Simplifying Arrangements for Urgent
and Emergency Care”*

‘We must do things differently’

October 2013

Document Control

Purpose of this document

The purpose of this document is to provide key information for the future Urgent and Emergency Care System in Wolverhampton.

Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Brief Summary of Change</i>	<i>Author</i>
0.1	23/01/13	Initial draft	R Modiri

Document

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Brief Summary of Change</i>	<i>Author</i>
0.1	21.02.13	Document Creation	RM
0.2	05.04.13	Include Patient engagement feedback	RM
0.3	17.04.13	Continuation of document content	RM
0.4	26.04.13	Circulation of initial draft	RM
0.5	29.04.13	Additions added to the strategy document	RM
Draft v3	29.04.13	Circulation of strategy document	RM
Draft v4	30.04.13	Circulated to Strategy group	RM
Draftv5.1	02.07.13	Circulated to Strategy Board	LL, DP, ML
Draft 6	10.07.13	Amendments to document	RM
Draft 7	15.07.13	Amendments	JO
Draft 8	16.07.13	Amendments from Strategy Board	RM
Draft 9	19.07.13	Amendments from core revision group	RM
Draft 10	23.07.13	Refinement by Core Revision Group	RM, LL
Draft 11	8.10.13	Amendments including from H&WBB	RM
Draft 12	11.10.13	Minor Amends from U&E Care Board	RM
Draft 13	18.10.13	U&E Care Boards Comments	RM
Draft 13.1	23.10.13	Core Group Comments	RM

Sign Off

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Signature</i>
Dr Julian Morgans	Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) Urgent Care Lead		
Dr Jonathan Odum	The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) Medical Director		

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Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

1. Foreword

Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) are wholly committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our population. We have worked with our health and social care partners to develop a joint urgent and emergency care strategy for patients from Wolverhampton and for those who use our services. We will place patients at the centre of our decision making and deliver this strategy through the newly established model of clinically led commissioning and collaboration across the health and social care economy. This model will bring about real differences for the health of our population and their experience of services.

The pressure seen by the urgent and emergency care system across the country is unsustainable. Performance on a number of important indicators has worsened over the winter period in 2012 and has continued into 2013. Indicators including how quickly patients are seen, discharged or admitted at the Emergency Department are particularly affected. This deterioration is also reflected in the experience and quality of care patients receive.

“We must do things differently.”

Given the complex nature of patient flows across different services, urgent and emergency care cannot be commissioned in isolation and the process requires a multidisciplinary, whole system approach across acute, primary, community-based services, social care and mental health. Collaboration is vital to tackle some of the mounting problems in the city and must be with partners and patients who have and will continue to be at the forefront of the developments and their views integral to the final strategy.

This strategy is centred on improving service provision by examining the whole urgent and emergency care system and describing the proposed arrangements for the future system in Wolverhampton until 2016/17. The strategy focuses on urgent and emergency care however it is interlinked with other strategies being developed for the city such as primary care, planned care, long term conditions, mental health, end of life care, health inequalities and intermediate care amongst others. Short to medium term solutions are being developed alongside the strategy and will be delivered in 2013/14.

This strategy intends to improve quality and translates local and national policy into action, outlines the local context, current activity and defines how the vision for urgent and emergency care will be delivered through a proactive, robust system that directs patients to the right service in the right place at the right time.

This is important work to ensure that we develop an affordable, sustainable and high quality urgent and emergency care system for all of our patients.

Dr Julian Morgans
WCCG Lead – Urgent Care

Dr Jonathan Odum
Medical Director – RWT

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

2. Statements of Support

South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group (SES&SP CCG)

South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG have worked closely with Wolverhampton CCG and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust and agree with the core principles and objectives outlined in this strategy. We will continue to work closely to support the joined up delivery of services across the local geographical boundaries to ensure our local population receives high quality urgent and emergency care.

Tim Dukes

For and on behalf of Seisdon Peninsular CCG

Wolverhampton City Council (WCC)

Wolverhampton City Council welcomes a strategy and is committed to one that works on partnership principles that support modernised ways of working. We share the need to focus on a better quality of outcome for citizens and look forward to taking this strategy forward.

Tony Ivko

For and on behalf of Wolverhampton City Council

West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WMAS)

West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust has worked closely with Wolverhampton CCG and the Royal Wolverhampton Trust and agrees with the core principles and objectives outlined in this strategy. We will continue to work closely to support the joined up delivery of services across the boundaries to ensure people get high quality urgent and emergency care.

Nick Henry

For and on behalf of West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The pressures seen within the urgent and emergency care system has been a focus of attention in the press both nationally and locally. It is understood that there is no single cause for the increased pressure nor is there a single solution. The system in Wolverhampton was not designed to cope with the current unpredicted increase in activity which is unsustainable both in terms of quality and finance.
- 3.2 The focus of attention has been specifically on the Emergency Department and the ambulance service however the entire urgent and emergency care system has experienced increases in demand. Our patients are experiencing long waits and have told us that they are confused on how and where to access appropriate services. Doing nothing is not an option.
- 3.3 The pressure has prompted the creation of a joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board (U&ECB) with partners from Wolverhampton coming together to develop an Urgent and Emergency Care strategy for the city and to provide a commitment to work with our patients to develop a cohesive and sustainable way forward. The joint U&ECB brings clinicians and managers from health and social care commissioning and provider organisations together with public health and patients representatives. Further details of who we are can be found in sections 6 and 7.
- 3.4 Urgent and emergency care is a priority in Wolverhampton and this clinically led strategy focuses on the vision of urgent and emergency care for people resident within the city and for those who use our services. Services should be easy to access 24/7 and include urgent GP appointments, Walk in Centres, the Emergency Department, the Ambulance service and Emergency Admissions to hospital. The strategy will be subject to a consultation process further to which an implementation plan will be developed to set out the key deliverables for this work. The strategy outlines the vision and areas of focus however the 'how' will be detailed within the implementation plan.
- 3.5 It is clear from our extensive work with patients, that people will make choices that they feel are right for them, navigating the system the best way that they can because they don't know what to do or where to go for urgent help. The system has become complicated for patients and their expectations have led to immediate demands to be seen and treated for conditions that are not always urgent, with the default often being the ambulance service or the Emergency Department (ED). These demands on the system may not always be clinically appropriate. This places pressure on different parts of the system and creates wider financial pressures on the local health economy.
- 3.6 The public in Wolverhampton are becoming more aware that financial sustainability is an important factor in the commissioning and provision of services across the city (and country). It is a core principle within the NHS Constitution that the NHS is committed to providing best value for tax payer's money and the most effective, fair and sustainable use of finite resources. This strategy will improve the quality of urgent and emergency care service provision in Wolverhampton whilst still ensuring its affordability and sustainability. The savings required nationally from the system will be dealt with in the detailed Commissioning Plan for the city and not within this strategy.
- 3.7 The Department of Health's Vision for urgent and emergency care is of universal, continuous access to high quality urgent and emergency care services. In practice, this will mean that whatever an urgent or emergency care need, patients get the best care from the best person, in the best place at the best time. Urgent and emergency care are broad terms and include anything from a life threatening illness or injury to more minor

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

illness or injury that needs urgent attention from health and social care professionals at any time of the day (both in and out of hours). Examples of the distinction between terms are provided in section 5.

- 3.8 The national landscape for urgent and emergency care is changing with the introduction of services such as NHS 111. National reviews such as that led by Sir Bruce Keogh (due Autumn 2013) are expected to set out principles that outline a system that provides consistently high quality and safe care across all seven days of the week, is simple and guides appropriate choices by patients and clinicians, provides the right care in the right place by those with the right skills, the first time and is efficient in the delivery of care and services. Locally, NHS England announced that its local area teams were drawing up A&E recovery plans. An A&E Recovery Plan has been developed for Wolverhampton to immediately tackle the local issues within the city, the implementation of which will be overseen by the U&ECB.
- 3.9 Further to the recent Francis Report and Trust Special Administrators (TSA) public consultation on the future of services at Stafford and Cannock Chase Hospitals, it is not yet clear what impact the outcomes will have on services in Wolverhampton. It is imperative that the future urgent and emergency care service provision in Wolverhampton is flexible and adaptable to cope with any fluctuations in activity. See section 8.9 for further detail.
- 3.10 Taking the views of our patients and stakeholders, and the extreme pressure the system has been under, a cohesive vision for urgent and emergency care has been developed:

“Our vision is for an improved, simplified and sustainable 24/7 urgent and emergency care system that supports the right care in the right place at the right time for all of our population. Our patients will receive high quality and seamless care from easily accessible, appropriate, integrated and responsive services.

Self-care will be promoted at all access points across the local health economies and patients will be guided to the right place for their care and their views will be integral to the culture of continuous improvement.”

- 3.11 The aim of the strategy is to improve and simplify arrangements for urgent and emergency care, to ensure that strong patient centred clinical leadership is available in all access points of the system, to provide better value for money and sustainability, and to provide greater consistency, transparency and openness. It is intended that the strategy will improve quality, safety and standards, provide better patient experience, service integration and be supported by the sharing of information with the regular reporting of outcomes. A no blame culture will be adopted with clinicians, managers and patients working together to improve the services offered to patients.
- 3.12 The strategic objectives include improved assessment and discharge, managing patient expectation whilst improving quality and timely access to services. Self-care will be encouraged, communication will be improved and patients will be actively identified through the use of risk stratification. The system will be seamless and consistent with the regular exploration and development of alternative solutions to improve quality and patient outcomes.
- 3.13 It is the intention of the U&ECB to deliver the strategy in phases. The chart below details the phased approach developed to deliver the strategy (further detail can be found in section 14):

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	<p>Phase 1 – CONSULT (Dec 13 – Dec 14)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish strategy & consult to understand patient & stakeholder views • Work with patients & local partners to develop regular & consistent communication methods & promotional campaigns • Work with Equality leads to undertake an equality impact assessment • Include the outcomes of the consultation to develop an implementation plan 			
	<p>Phase 2 – IMPROVING PRIMARY CARE (Nov 13 -Dec 16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with our patients and partners to make changes in Primary Care including a GP home visiting scheme and improving timely access to GP practices • Improve the quality and integration of out of hours services into the new Urgent Care Centre in 2016 • Develop the required primary care provision required at the front door of ED, test and embed the model working towards 2016 • Develop improved high quality, integrated pathways of care across primary and secondary care supported by telephone access through NHS 111 and WUCTAS • Undertake focused work on over 65 years (including care homes) and 0-5 years 			
	<p>Phase 3 – IMPROVING SECONDARY CARE (Nov 13-Dec 16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with our patients and partners to make changes in Secondary Care including service provision and improving timely access • Work together to develop the new Emergency Department • Develop standards of care including senior decision makers at the start of the patients journey from ED • Work with local authority partners to improve rapid access to social care and seamless service provision across health and social care including care homes • Work with Mental Health partners to improve urgent and emergency care provision and response times for patients in crisis 			
	<p>Phase 4 – REVIEW & AMEND (On-going)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going review of system capacity during changes in phases 1-3 & identify additional changes required to respond to surges in activity • On-going review of efficiencies and reinvest finances to manage future growth • Continually develop the IT systems and information sharing required ensuring data is accurate, timely & routinely used • Monitor activity to identify negative impacts on services further to changes being implemented • Work with other commissioning areas to develop the urgent care elements of strategies (mental health, social care, end of life, public health, etc) to prevent ED attendance and emergency admissions • Continue to work with partners and providers such as public health and WMAS to deliver improvements in the quality of service provision for patients 			

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

- 3.14 The Urgent and Emergency Care Board is fully committed to promoting equality of opportunity, eliminating unlawful and unfair discrimination and valuing diversity, so that we can remove or minimise disadvantages between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. All Urgent and Emergency Care services will ensure that services are appropriate and do not discriminate on the basis of the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or beliefs, sex and sexual orientation. Where services are required based on age, the reason will be on the grounds of service provision such as children's services or services aimed specifically at older adults due to the nature of their conditions. Further details can be found in Appendix 1. The rights and pledges contained in the NHS Constitution will be upheld at all stages of the patient journey through Urgent and Emergency Care.
- 3.15 This strategy intends to improve urgent and emergency care by providing a seamless, high quality system that communicates with patients and directs them to the right place for their care. The system will be sustainable, flexible and affordable. The new system has been designed to reduce duplication and to enable the system to flex during times of pressure. Primary Care should be accessible for our patients, Ambulances should wait no longer than 15 minutes to be turned around at ED and our patients should wait no longer than 4 hours to be seen, discharged or admitted from the new Emergency Department (and less from the new Urgent Care Centre) 24/7. To support the strategy, work must be undertaken jointly with our partners to ensure the patient journey is as seamless as possible.
- 3.16 This is important work and it is imperative that we start the process to significantly change the system so that urgent and emergency care provision can respond more effectively to patient's needs, provide high quality care and manage the challenges of activity changes.

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

4. Introduction

4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 initiated one of the most radical reforms to the NHS since its creation in 1948. The Act has major implications for the local health system and the relationship between that system and local government (Integrated Commissioning Plan 2013). The Coalition Government has enshrined the definition of quality into the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Act now places new duties on the Secretary of State for Health, the NHS Commissioning Board, and Clinical Commissioning groups to act with a view to ensuring continuous improvement in the quality of NHS services.

4.2 The government is committed to the idea of a 24/7 urgent care service. This is reiterated in its White Paper, 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS' that has led to the current health reforms. "The government will develop a coherent 24/7 urgent care service in every area of England that makes sense to patients when they have to make choices about their care. This will incorporate GP Out of Hours services and provide urgent medical care for people registered with a GP elsewhere. It is intended to make care more accessible by introducing, a single telephone number for every kind of urgent and social care need and by using technology to help people communicate with their clinicians".

4.3 Over the years there have been many criticisms and frustrations from local people and healthcare professionals when it comes to having a more responsive urgent and emergency care service. In particular it seems clear that if presented with a responsive, high quality, reliable and accessible primary and community services then our patients would rather use these for many of their needs instead of going to the Emergency Department.

'People act differently when they are anxious' Patient Focus Groups Jan 2013.

4.4 The significant pressure on urgent and emergency care locally, has highlighted real concern about the sustainability of services and has resulted in collaborative and cooperative support from across the health and social care economy to facilitate change. Pressures relating to the announcement of further budget cuts within Wolverhampton City Council (WCC) can only add to these difficulties. The delivery of urgent and emergency care within the context of the model of care described in this strategy has been devolved to the joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board by the respective organisations. Change to the system is a must and doing nothing is not an option.

5. What is Urgent and Emergency Care?

5.1 When people in Wolverhampton are asked what they mean by urgent and emergency care, they talk about the need for an immediate or quick response in a variety of situations:

- When something critical or life threatening happens (a major accident, a deep wound, heavy blood loss or a suspected heart attack);
- When something is serious but not necessarily life threatening, but known by the individual or others to need immediate support (bad falls, initial chest pain);
- When something seems serious but you just don't know what to do (a child with worsening fever or an individual with stomach pains);
- When there is a minor injury which needs immediate attention (cuts, bruises);

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

- When you suspect a common illness or condition, but are not sure what to do about it or need urgent help due to personal circumstances (to fit round work or care responsibilities) (*Source: Patient Engagement January 2013*).

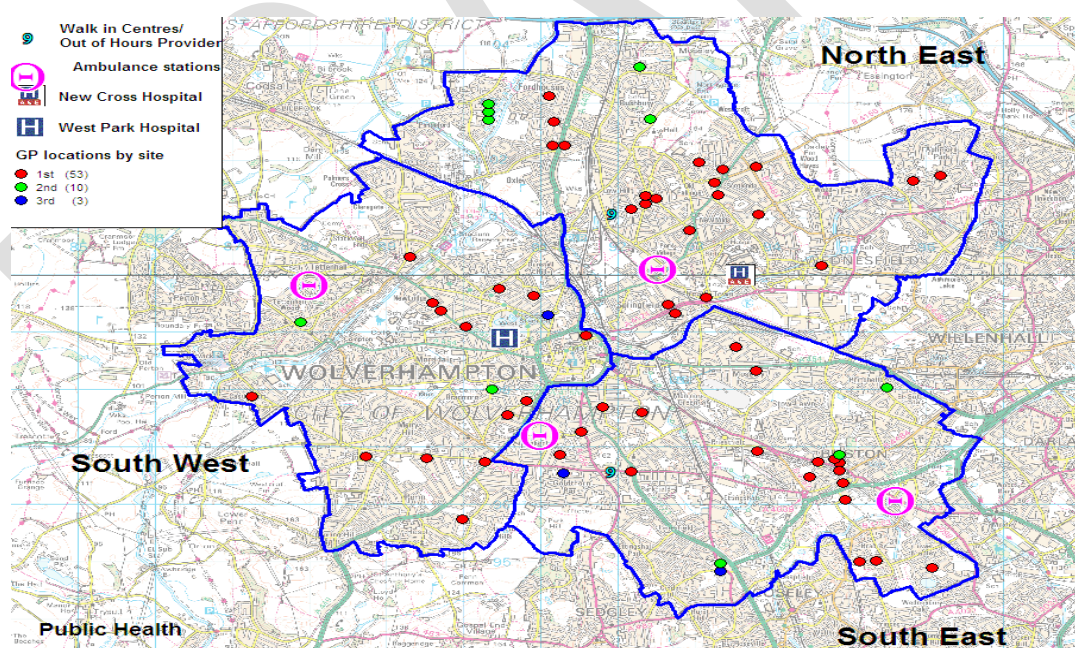
“People have different ideas on what an emergency is. Some people think that a headache is an emergency. They don’t always know where to go or what it is” Patient Focus Groups Jan 2013.

5.2 Terms such as unscheduled care, unplanned care, emergency care and urgent care are used interchangeably. The Department of Health’s guidance on telephone access to out of hours advice sought to clarify commonly used terms however we must ensure that the terminology used is clear for patients.

- Emergency Care = immediate response to time critical healthcare need
- Urgent Care = a response before the next in-hours or routine (primary care) service is available.

6. Who Are We?

6.1 **Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG)** - is a relatively new organisation formed in March 2012 from the amalgamation of two discrete clinical commissioning groups and formerly the Wolverhampton City Primary Care Trust. The CCG is responsible for managing approximately £327 million and is committed to developing an organisation that will deliver modern, high quality, integrated and value for money services for the people of Wolverhampton.



Picture 1. Map of Wolverhampton 2012/13

The Clinical Commissioning Group comprises of all of its 50 (soon to be 49) constituent GP practices however each GP Practice is commissioned individually by NHS England. Every GP practice in the city is aligned with the CCG and this provides the optimal environment to work with our partners and patients to improve outcomes by commissioning high quality, evidence based services. This will be achieved by focussing on health needs, outcomes, sustainability and building effective care

Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

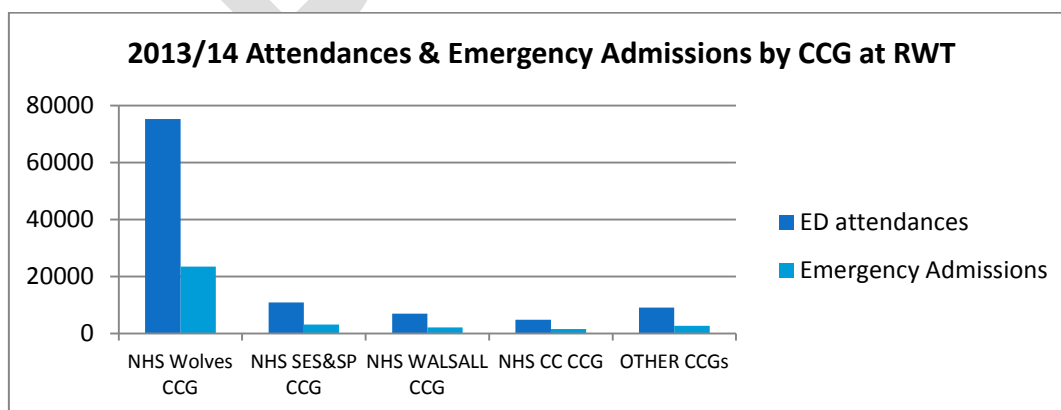
pathways. Wolverhampton ranks amongst the 25 most deprived areas in England and healthcare in the city includes:

- 50 GP practices (reducing to 49 in late 2013)
- One hospital provider (The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust - RWT)
- Two walk in centre providers across the city:
 - Phoenix Walk in Centre, provider RWT
 - Showell Park, provider Docs on Call;
- Out of hours provider (Primecare);
- Local Authority (Wolverhampton City Council)
- Mental Health Trust (Black Country Partnership)
- There are also a number of other services including West Park Hospital, Penn Hospital, community healthcare teams, Social Care Provision and Mental Health teams, voluntary services.
- Demographic information for Wolverhampton is available in Appendix 2.

6.2 The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) - is an NHS Trust providing secondary, tertiary and community services for the people of Wolverhampton, the Black Country, South Staffordshire, and the wider West Midlands. It is the largest teaching hospital in the Black Country providing teaching and training to around 130 medical students on rotation from the University of Birmingham Medical School. RWT also provides training for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals through well-established links with the University of Wolverhampton. One of the largest NHS providers in the West Midlands the Trust has an operating budget of £374 million, more than 800 beds on 2 sites, and it employs more than 6,700 staff.

7. Health and Social Care Partners

7.1 Associate Commissioners. Wolverhampton patients don't always use the facilities close to where they live, and may use urgent and emergency care services in other parts of the country. When they do, it is still the responsibility of Wolverhampton commissioners to pay for their care. Similarly people from outside Wolverhampton using local urgent and emergency care services are paid for by the commissioners where they live. In 2013/14, Wolverhampton residents are expected to account for 70% of Emergency Department attendances and 71% of emergency admissions at New Cross Hospital. The remaining 30% of attendances are expected to come from Walsall (10%), South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG (7%), Cannock Chase CCG (5%) and the remaining patients coming from other local and national areas.



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- 7.1.1 South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group (SES & SP CCG)** - residents are expected to account for approximately 7% of ED attendances and 10% of emergency admissions at New Cross Hospital in 2013/14. The CCG is responsible for the healthcare of 210,000 patients within 3 locality areas; Tamworth, Lichfield and South Staffs (Seisdon) and the population utilise services from 4 hospital providers, three of which are classed as out of the area (i.e. out of Staffordshire). Many of the patients from Seisdon Peninsula Locality in particular use the ED service at New Cross Hospital. Seisdon consists of 9 GP Practices which cover Codsall, Bilbrook, Perton, Wombourne, Claverley, Kinver and Featherstone and their surrounding areas looking after a population of approximately 55,000.
- 7.1.2 Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG)** – Walsall residents are expected to account for 10% of ED attendances and 7% of emergency admissions at New Cross Hospital in 2013/14. There are 63 GP Member practices from across Walsall which are divided into four locality commissioning groups serving a total population of approx. 270,000.
- 7.1.3 Cannock Chase CCG (CC CCG)** is made up of 27 member practices within the boundaries of Cannock Chase District Council and the Huntington, Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay wards of South Staffordshire District Council serving a population of approximately 132,000. CC CCG residents are expected to account for approximately 5% of ED attendances and 5% of emergency admissions at New Cross Hospital in 2013/14.
- 7.2 Wolverhampton City Council (WCC)** - Wolverhampton City Council exercises responsibility for meeting the Social Care needs of Wolverhampton residents through a range of universal and specific services. For vulnerable adults across all client groups, these are commissioned externally, some through joint commissioning with the CCG and others provided through services directly controlled by the Council. Preventative services are also available e.g. to support Carers, to maintain an individual in their home. The Department of Public Health has a focus on tackling health inequalities through addressing the social determinants of health, commissioning and developing prevention services and programmes, and the optimal management of long term conditions. Work is targeted across the whole of the life course. To improve the quality of the discharge pathway and reduce pressures within Royal Wolverhampton Hospital Trust, WCC have developed an Integrated Discharge team that is already reducing lengths of stay and Delayed Discharges.
- 7.3 Black Country Partnership (BCP)** - The Black Country Partnership is a major provider of mental health, learning disabilities and community healthcare services for people of all ages in the Black Country. It provides mental health and specialist learning disabilities services to people of all ages in Sandwell and Wolverhampton, and specialist learning disability services in Walsall, Wolverhampton and Dudley community healthcare services for children, young people and families.
- 7.4 Health and Well Being Board (H&WBB)** - Wolverhampton has a Health and Well Being Board consisting of senior decision makers from across the city including health, social care and police amongst others. This board will help give communities a greater say in understanding and addressing their local health and social care needs. Urgent care is one of their key priorities and the board is fundamental in agreeing the way forward for urgent and emergency care service provision for the city. In addition, the Adult Delivery Board has identified Urgent Care as one of their priorities and will be overseeing the work of the Urgent and Emergency Care Board.

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7.5 **Healthwatch England** was established in October 2012 and took over full responsibility of the patient voice from 1st April 2013 in place of LiNk. Healthwatch England leads and supports the Healthwatch network, made up of 152 community-focused local Healthwatch organisations. It is the intention of the Urgent and Emergency Care Board to work closely with Wolverhampton's Healthwatch to ensure that high quality care is delivered across the city for our patients.

7.6 **West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS)** - The Trust is commissioned to deliver an emergency and urgent ambulance service to the West Midlands region. It was authorised as a Foundation Trust in January 2013 and continues to be a significant provider of urgent and emergency care services across Birmingham and the Black Country including Wolverhampton.

8. Strategic Context

8.1 The NHS Constitution sets out the principles and values that underpin the NHS in England. It sets out the rights to which patients, the public and staff are entitled, and pledges to which the NHS is committed to achieve together with responsibilities, which the public, patients and staff owe to one another to ensure that the NHS operates fairly and effectively. The core principles of the NHS Constitution are fundamental to the development and delivery of the Urgent and Emergency Care strategy and are embedded within the strategy's aims and objectives. The seven principles include:

1. The NHS Provides a comprehensive service to all irrespective of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender reassignment, belief, pregnancy and maternity or marriage or civil partnership status.
2. Access to NHS services is based on clinical need, not an individual's ability to pay (except in limited circumstances sanctioned by parliament).
3. The NHS aspires to the highest standards of excellence and professionalism
4. The NHS aspires to put patients at the heart of everything it does
5. The NHS works across organisational boundaries and in partnership with other organisations in the interests of patients, local communities and the wider population
6. The NHS is committed to providing best value for tax payers money and the effective, fair and sustainable use of finite resources
7. The NHS is accountable to the public, communities and patients that it serves.

8.2 The Government has set out a clear vision for a modernised NHS driven by a new commissioning system focused relentlessly on improving outcomes for patients. The cornerstone of the proposed system will be local clinical commissioning groups, which will put GPs – using their knowledge and understanding of patients' needs – at the heart of the commissioning process (www.gov.uk).

8.3 The NHS Outcomes Framework 2013/14 – Everyone Counts has a number of principles supporting the new approach to clinically led commissioning from 1st April 2013 including: **empowered local clinicians delivering better outcomes; increased information for patients to make choices; greater accountability to the communities the NHS serves.** The key measures covered within the Outcome Framework include: **listening to patients; focusing on outcomes; rewarding excellence; improving knowledge and data.** All these domains will impact upon the work of the urgent and emergency care services across the city and will be underpinned by the use of NICE guidance. The key measures highlighted above are also included within this strategy.

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- 8.4 The Department of Health's (DoH) vision for urgent and emergency care is of universal, continuous access to high quality urgent and emergency care services. In practice, this will mean that whatever our urgent or emergency care need, whatever our location, we get the best care from the best person, in the best place and at the best time (DoH, 2012). The 24/7 vision of a coherent Urgent Care Service should aim to provide **Greater consistency, Improved quality and safety, Improved patient experience, Greater integration and Better value.**
- 8.5 The RCGP (Royal College of General Practitioners) suggests that 'good urgent and emergency care is patient-focussed, based on good clinical outcomes (survival, recovery, lack of adverse events and complications, a good patient experience, ease of access and convenience, timely, right the first time) and available 24/7 to the same high standards. They have also developed a Commissioners Guide to Urgent and Emergency Care (Urgent and Emergency Care – A Whole System Approach). The document suggests that 'the urgent and emergency care system still appears fragmented and needs to be more joined-up to make the care provided seamless, more efficient and effective, and offering greater value to commissioners'.
- 8.6 Given the high profile nature of the pressures, a national review of emergency care is underway led by the NHS England Medical Director, Professor Sir Bruce Keogh, and an inquiry by the Health Select Committee, the outcomes of which are expected in the autumn of 2013. The outcomes of the review are expected to impact the delivery of urgent and emergency care in the future. The emerging principles from the review include a system that provides consistently high quality and safe care across all seven days of the week, is simple and guides appropriate choices by patients and clinicians, provides the right care in the right place by those with the right skills, the first time and is efficient in the delivery of care and services. The emerging principles have been included within this strategy.
- 8.7 Following the NHS Next Stage Review, the launch of the Equitable Access Programme in 2008/9 led to the opening of new primary care services across England. As part of the Programme, all primary care trusts (PCTs) were required to commission at least one GP-led health centre to provide primary care services to both registered and unregistered patients requiring routine or urgent primary care without an appointment (walk-in patients). These health centres had to be open between 8am and 8pm, 7 days a week. There is much speculation about the walk in centres resulting in an additional layer and confusion for patients on where and how to access services in an urgent situation. Monitor, the sector regulator for healthcare in England, is undertaking a review of the provision of walk in centres across England, the findings of which will be available in December 2013.
- 8.8 The King's Fund report "Managing Emergency Activity – Urgent Care" May 2011, summarised some of the key reasons why urgent and emergency care is important. The report describes how walk in centres do not appear to have led to shorter waits in general practice or lower admission rates at other health care providers. There are currently two walk in centres in Wolverhampton, one GP led walk in centre located at Showell Park (open 8am-8pm, 7 days) and a nurse led walk in centre located at the Phoenix Centre which is open from 10am-7pm, 7 days.
- 8.9 Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust has been subject to a full public inquiry, led by Sir Robert Francis QC, following reports of failings to provide adequate care to patients using services at the hospital during 2005 and 2008. Following the Inquiry, the Trust Special Administrators (TSA) have undertaken a 40 day consultation exercise about the future of

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services at Stafford and Cannock Chase Hospitals. The implications of the findings are not yet known and it is therefore imperative that the future urgent and emergency care system is sufficiently flexible to cope with any changes in activity. During a 12 month period with the ED at Stafford Hospital being closed overnight, RWT saw an additional 135 patients per month.

8.10 The national agenda for urgent and emergency care services highlights the need to ensure services are more responsive to people, use resources more efficiently and use developments in medical and technological advances to deliver better care and support to people.

8.11 In establishing the drivers impacting on the model of urgent and emergency care delivery, there are a number of significant areas of relevance to the Wolverhampton Urgent Care Strategy including NHS England's National Commissioning Board, the development of NHS 111 and the new Emergency Department at New Cross Hospital, and potentially RWT being approved as having Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) Status. The Urgent and Emergency Care Board recognises that these drivers will have varying levels of influence on the strategy, however it is difficult to predict to what extent and timescales. Further details are outlined at Appendix 3 & 4.

9. Urgent and Emergency Care in Wolverhampton

9.1 WCCG has considered a range of evidence and indicators over the past 12 months including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) information which is developed locally by the Local Authority (including Public Health), social care and the CCG, data from Public Health England and information provided by our GP's, our key providers and engagement with patients and the wider public. The results of the engagement and the analysis of the data has enabled WCCG to identify three key clinical priorities of which Urgent Care is one. The WCCG plans to **"Improve and simplify arrangements for Urgent Care"**.

9.2 RWT has also set out Urgent and Emergency Care as one of its strategic priorities. This reflects the importance of ensuring patients access the correct urgent and emergency care facility and only attend the Emergency Department when appropriate and necessary. As the front door of the hospital, the Trust recognises the importance of the EDs emergency and urgent care delivery on other services and the impact that the growth in urgent care has on the hospital as a whole.

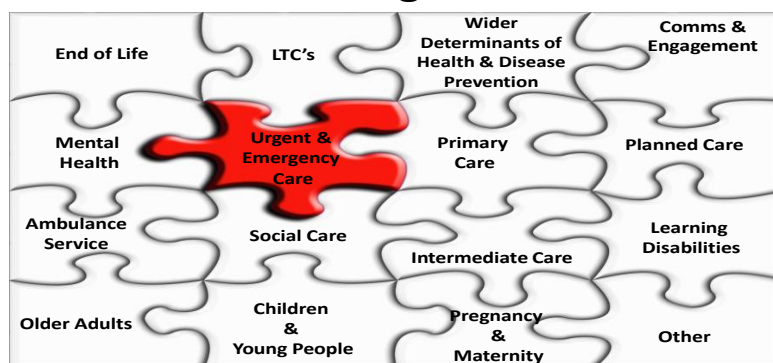
9.3 The scope of Urgent and Emergency care is broad and services vary nationally. In Wolverhampton the existing urgent and emergency care system includes a range of services (further details can be found in appendix 5) including:

Self-care & NHS Choices	West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS)
Community Nursing Teams including Hospital at Home, Community Matrons, Tele Healthcare, CICT	Wolverhampton Urgent Care Telephone Access Service (WUCTAS)
Pharmacists	Care Homes (Residential and Nursing Homes)
General Practice (GP) practices	Out of Hours Primary Care Service
Walk in Centres (WiC)	Emergency Department (ED)
NHS 111	Emergency Hospital Admissions including Paediatrics, Acute Medical Unit and Surgical Assessment Unit.
Urgent Social Care	Urgent Mental Health

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9.4 Urgent and emergency care cannot be commissioned in isolation. The 'jigsaw diagram' below attempts to show visually how pathways and strategies for other areas such as Long Term Conditions, Mental Health and Social Care all impact urgent and emergency care and vice versa. Detailed descriptions of the work being undertaken to improve the wider system and how they will support the urgent and emergency care system are detailed in section 15.

The Urgent & Emergency Care Strategic Fit



9.5 There have been many changes to the Urgent and Emergency Care system over the past few years with the introduction of urgent care provision at the walk in centres at Showell Park and the Phoenix Centre; new out of hours provision by Primecare and new pathway developments for conditions which more recently have been managed in the community including DVT, COPD exacerbations and Cellulitis amongst others. In addition, ways of navigating the system for both patients and healthcare professionals have been streamlined with services such as the Wolverhampton Urgent Care Telephone Service (WUCTAS) and more recently NHS 111. The ambulance service continues to deliver 999 ambulance responses for patients in Birmingham, the Black Country, Staffordshire, West Mercia and Coventry and Warwickshire (West Midlands region) including Wolverhampton and have been making changes to improve their response times particularly in the winter period with the introduction of falls cars and GP rapid response vehicles (when commissioned).

9.6 To ensure our patient's views are integral to the strategy development, the Urgent and Emergency Care Board commissioned an engagement project in December 2012 with patients who were using the urgent and emergency services within Wolverhampton. Our public health, patient engagement and commissioning colleagues worked together with an external organisation to undertake a project where patients completed surveys and attended focus groups to explore their use and thoughts of urgent and emergency care service provision. In addition to the initial project, further engagement work has been undertaken during February-April 2013 with stakeholders and patients to understand their views on different ways the urgent and emergency care system could progress and what the key issues are. Further details can be found in Section 12.

'Your GP knows your family history and you trust your doctor, he knows your case history' Patient Focus Groups Jan 2013.

9.7 There is recognition that patients want to see their own GP but are often confused about which services are available for them to access for their urgent care needs, and how quickly they can be seen, particularly at different times of the day. GPs from across the city also believe that Primary Care could help to reduce Emergency Department activity if the system were to change both in and out of hours. Patients say that anxiety is a key

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factor in their choice of where to go for urgent and emergency care. It is the view of the Urgent and Emergency Care Board that access to primary care and the provision of services in the out of hours period must be improved to ensure patients can see a GP when their GP surgery is either open or closed. We must also improve communication across the system for both health and social care professionals and also for our patients.

'Make them aware what is and isn't an emergency' Patient Focus Groups Jan 2013.

9.8 Pathways of care across health and social care are fundamental to the delivery of urgent and emergency care. A patient's journey from the start of their urgent care episode right through to their recovery must be considered. Work with our partners to ensure that the social care and mental health requirements for attendance, admission and discharge should be a focus to improve the quality of the journey for patients. Improving timely and appropriate discharge of patients from hospital beds is also a contributing factor to a lack of flow through the hospital with detrimental effects on other patients requiring urgent and emergency care.

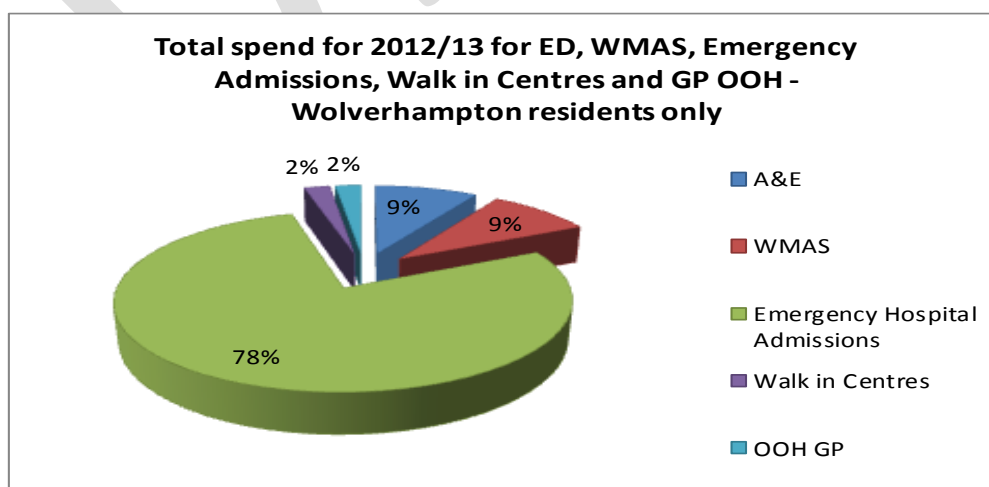
'Present the care pathway visually to people' Patient Focus Groups Jan 2013.

10. How Much Do We Spend?

10.1 In 2013/14, WCCG is responsible for a total operating budget of £327m however this covers the commissioning and monitoring of all of its responsible services.

10.2 Quantifying how much is spent in total on urgent and emergency care in Wolverhampton is difficult due to the complexities of many of the contracts held for health and social care. Areas such as mental health and social care have urgent and emergency elements to services but it may not be their sole purpose. In addition, complex contracts for community services, medicines management and GP contracts make splitting the urgent element of services difficult.

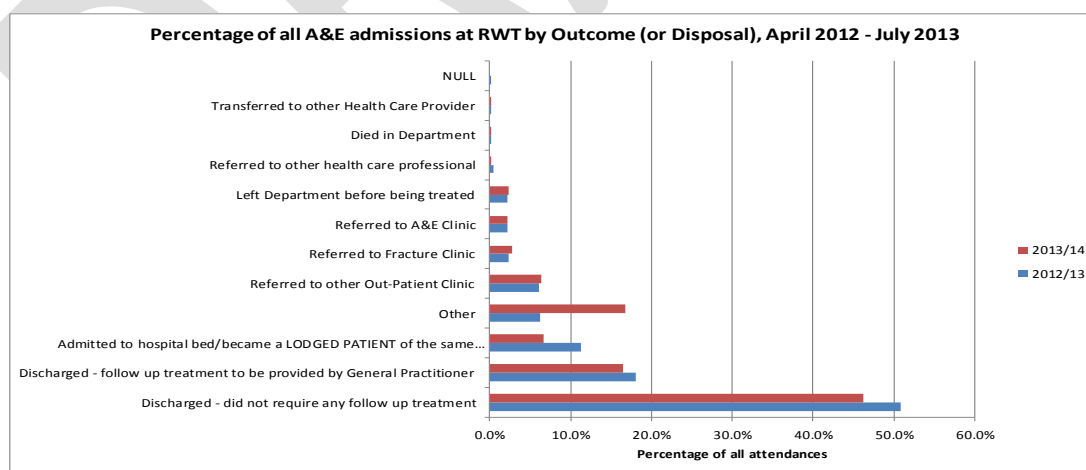
10.3 The chart below shows the % of the total spend for Wolverhampton residents for walk in centres, GP out of hours service, Emergency Department attendances, emergency hospital admissions and the ambulance service only – a total of £90m in 2012/13. This is only a small element of the total urgent and emergency spend if GP urgent care support, NHS 111, community services, mental health and social care are considered.



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11. Challenges / Case for Change

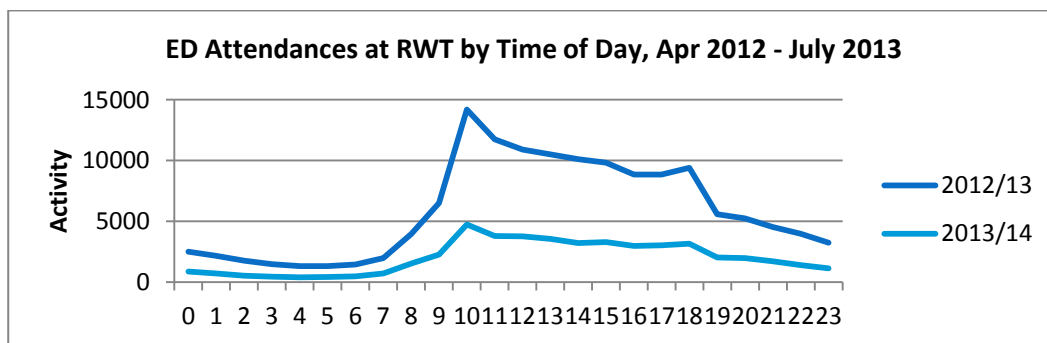
- 11.1 Pressure within urgent and emergency care has grown year on year. More recently however, the Wolverhampton local health economy has seen unprecedented surges in activity. Significant numbers of patients attended the Emergency Department in 2013 with the ED seeing its highest number of patients in one day (n. 392) compared to an average of 300 per day between 1/5/13 to 15/7/13.
- 11.2 Performance against national targets is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve. Historically, RWT has not failed the annual 95% quality indicator for patients being seen, discharged or admitted at ED. The overall target for 2012/13 was achieved however only narrowly during Q4 of 2012/13.
- 11.3 There were 106,838 attendances at Emergency Department in Wolverhampton in the year 2012/13 compared to 101,298 in 2011/12, an increase of 5.19%. There were also 44518 non electives admissions, an estimated 2,188,866 GP consultations, over 60,000 attendances at both Walk in Centres and approximately 23,923 contacts with the out of hours service. There were 44,936 patients in contact with the ambulance service and ambulance conveyance to RWT increased by 5.4% compared to the previous year's data. An average increase of 56 ambulances per week attending RWT compared to 2011/12 based on Q4 average (A&E Recovery Plan).
- 11.4 Wolverhampton has one of the lowest attendance to admission ratios. This means that there are a high number of people attending ED, however there are a low number of attendances that turn into an admission. This would suggest that the needs of some of these patients could be met by other services, such as primary care, should those services be available. The chart below shows the outcomes for patients who have used the ED. Patients who have left without being treated, those who do not require follow up or have been discharged with follow up by a GP could possibly be seen in an alternative setting such as primary care. The quality of ED diagnosis data is limited therefore it is not possible without a full audit to confirm the number of primary care patients attending ED.



- 11.5 Our patients have expressed their concerns at difficulties accessing primary care and the significant impact this has on increasing Emergency Department (ED) attendances. A recent review of Access to Primary Care and Visits to Emergency Departments in England (Thomas E. Cowling et al) has shown a direct correlation between General Practice providing more timely access to primary care and having fewer self-referred discharged Emergency Department visits per registered patients. The chart below

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shows the peaks in ED attendances during the opening hours of general practice and immediately when General Practice closes (around 6pm).



- 11.6 Ambulances are waiting for more than 15 minutes to turnaround at the Emergency Department, hospital bed capacity has been seriously challenged and 'winter' wards remained open throughout the summer of 2013/14. Primary Care has also seen significant increases in demand with many of the primary care and community based urgent and emergency care services seeing equivalent pressure across the city.
- 11.7 Finance and activity modelling has been used to support the redesign of the urgent and emergency care system. A reference group has been developed and the Commissioning Support Unit (CSU) invited to undertake the exercise to understand the potential increases in activity and finance. The CSU support clinical commissioning groups by providing system modelling and business intelligence, amongst other support services. To highlight the current pressures, the modelling predicted an increase in activity from 2012/13 to 2016/17 of 4.3% if no changes were made to the system. However existing pressures have already shown a 5.19% increase at the ED. Further detail can be found in Appendix 6.
- 11.8 There has been a regular focus on the existing Emergency Department and the limitations of the current service provision due to the building's current geographic layout and design. The current Emergency Department opened in the mid 1990's and is not designed for service provision in 2013 resulting in safety concerns due to the lack of space being documented in the local press. RWT is currently making a number of interim improvements to increase capacity but they do not provide suitable long term solutions.
- 11.9 The emergency attendance and admission departments including the ED, Acute Medical Unit (AMU), Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU) and Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) are separated across the hospital site making the physical transfer of patients and economies of scale/ shared staffing resources impractical. Work is underway to develop the case for a new ED building that will house the urgent and emergency care services together with an out of hours primary care resource offering 24/7 urgent and emergency care on the New Cross site. It is imperative that the wider system improves in addition to the proposed new build to ensure that patients are seen in the right place at the right time.
- 11.10 Through our research it is clear that there is duplication across the system with a small percentage of patients using two or more services for one episode (1591 attendances in 2011 and 1847 in 2012 at the Phoenix Centre and Showell Park which also had an ED attendance within 24 hours). There is significant duplication between the users of the ED and Showell Park given the close proximity of the services. Further detail can be found in Appendix 7.

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11.11 Wolverhampton City Council has invested in supporting alternatives for inappropriate admissions as well as investing in a new Integrated Discharge team. However, the Council faces unprecedented cuts to its budget that will inevitably impact on its' ability to maintain all of the existing services. As a community, partnership working with the social care and NHS partners is paramount to develop a future framework that will deliver greater integration of activity and closer working around the patient.

12. Case for Change – Through Our Patients Eyes

12.1 To understand the patient perspective a research project has been undertaken to engage with patients and to get their views on urgent and emergency care. Approximately 180 patients were involved at urgent and emergency care services across the city including GP Practices, the Emergency Department and walk in centres. Patients were also invited to focus groups where they were able to discuss their thoughts in more detail.

- Participants displayed uncertainty as to when they should be accessing the different parts of the urgent care system;
- The majority of respondents reported that the following factors would influence their decision on which service to access when they had an urgent need:
 1. The ability to book a GP appointment
 2. The severity of their condition
 3. Time of day (if the surgery closed/Out of Hours)
 4. Consideration of busy periods/time of year
 5. Waiting times
 6. Limited availability of appointments/access (GPs)
 7. Panic and anxiety influence the use of ED.

12.2 Patients report that they are familiar with their GP and the service that their practice provides. They were confident that they would get the answers and treatment that they need quickly. The overall findings of the report include:

- Urgent Care is confusing for patients and professionals (our patients say that they are unsure where to go for an urgent care need quickly and services are hard to navigate);
- Too many access points (our patients say that they are not always sure which service to go to for different needs – there are additional layers in the system);
- GP appointments are not always available when patients have an urgent need (our patients say that they are using the walk in centres and ED because they cannot get an appointment at their own GP);
- There is significant variability in patient experience;
- Patients want to see their own GP but cannot always get an appointment when it is urgent;
- Patients want to know where to go and what for when they have an urgent need (we need to communicate with patients better);
- There is a recognition that services have to be sustainable;
- There is a strong appetite for patients to be involved in the commissioning of services;
- Access to urgent care should be fast especially for the vulnerable e.g. elderly, young people;

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- Accessible services such as Walk in Centres receive differing views/criticism e.g. Positives: easy access, superb, positive treatment vs. Negatives: just end up in ED anyway, poor response times.

12.3 The groups that patients identified as the most in need were parents with young children, students who are rarely registered with GPs in the area that they are studying in, the elderly population who would rather see their own GP than access ED or the ambulance service and middle aged people who are likely to have to fit their care with full time work.

12.4 The current system is confusing for all of the groups identified above. Patients feel that they have a right to access care and when they are anxious they do not always make the best decision for the system but it is generally the best decision for them. The time of day and personal circumstances have a lot to do with the choices that are made particularly including free prescriptions, fitting around work commitments and also when parents collect their children after school or nursery. Service opening times are not always clear and therefore ED can become the default service by guaranteeing that patients will be seen and treated.

12.5 Anxious parents will take their children to whichever service will resolve their problem and patients feel that the system should communicate better with patients to inform them of the costs involved, the services that are available and to consider charging/fining patients for inappropriate use of services. Patients feel that there are too many options for them to go to and if their own GP is closed or they cannot get an appointment, ED is often the default.

13. Stakeholder Views

13.1 A system wide engagement process was undertaken in early 2013 to understand the views of stakeholders. Engaging with primary care was a priority to ensure that GPs and practice staff were given the opportunity to put their views across. A survey was circulated to all GP's in Wolverhampton and in the Seisdon locality. Wolverhampton GPs agreed with patients suggesting that improvements could be made in primary care together with a total system change including a new ED and Urgent Care Centre at the front door of ED. Seisdon GPs suggested that total system change was their most preferred way forward although improvements in primary care were also a high priority.

14. The Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

14.1 Our Vision

***“Our vision is for an improved, simplified and sustainable 24/7 urgent and emergency care system that supports the right care in the right place at the right time for all of our population. Our patients will receive high quality and seamless care from easily accessible, appropriate, integrated and responsive services.*”**

Self-care will be promoted at all access points across the local health economies and patients will be guided to the right place for their care and their views will be integral to the culture of continuous improvement.”

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14.2 System Change Through our Patients Eyes

The new urgent and emergency care system will be improved and simplified for patients with access to general practice, community teams, a walk in centre at the Phoenix Centre, the ambulance service and a new Urgent Care Centre and ED at New Cross Hospital. Patients will be encouraged to self-care or seek advice from pharmacy services or to be guided to the right place for their care through telephone access with NHS 111. The out of hours service and the Showell Park Walk in Centre (only the service, the building and GP practice will remain) will be relocated to become a fundamental part of the new Urgent Care Centre which will offer care to primary care patients 24 hours a day, 7 days per week whether they walk in or are directed there by a healthcare professional.

Patients will be able to access their GP practice in a timely way, they will be clear on the opening times of services and what services are available at what time of the day. Communication will be improved and services will be simplified to ensure the confusion and duplication is reduced. Healthcare professionals will continue to access alternatives to a hospital admission for patients through the use of WUCTAS and this will be opened up to use by care homes, ED, social care and discharging hospital wards to make sure patients are treated as close to home as possible.

Patients with mental health needs and long term conditions will be included in decision making, they will be cared for earlier in their condition with plans in place and developed with them for when their conditions deteriorates. Pathways of care that are agreed across primary and secondary care will be developed for patients with a particular focus on children and older adults. All patients will have a responsive primary care service with a GP in a car responding to urgent calls to general practice, whether patients live in their own home or a care home.

Care homes will be offered advice and guidance, and patients who are at the end of their life and their families and carers will be part of the decision making and planning for their end of life care. Services will work together to keep patients in their place of residence where possible whether they are at the beginning, middle or end of their life and services will be more responsive when patients do experience a crisis.

Emergency Services will continue to be responsive to the needs of patients who are in a life threatening situation. Patients will have access to senior decision makers early on in their care when they do need emergency care. The new emergency department at New Cross Hospital will ensure all urgent and emergency care attendance and admission services are located in one place making the decision on which service patients should access much simpler. Patients will go through one door for new Urgent and Emergency Care Department at New Cross Hospital and will be directed to the right care (the right clinician), at the right place (Urgent Care Centre, ED or emergency admission) at the right time (24/7) whether their need is a minor illness, minor injury or major illness or injury.

The new Urgent Care Centre will see and treat patients and will offer advice to general practice, for patients who have attended, for onward referral where health inequalities, disease prevention or on-going support is required. Patients will be offered guidance on the most appropriate service to access for their care in the future if they have attended a service inappropriately. Frequent service users will be part of a multidisciplinary team review where services will come together to help them to find a resolution to their continued needs.

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Patients who are not registered with a GP in Wolverhampton but who use Wolverhampton services in an urgent or emergency situation will not be treated any differently than those who are resident in the city. Patients will be treated at the walk in centre at the Phoenix Centre or at the new Urgent and Emergency Care Department and referred back to their own GP practice for onward care closer to their own place of residence. Services will make sure that where patients from other areas need help to go back home, the necessary arrangements are made in a timely and efficient way.

Resources will be reinvested to improve the timeliness of services, improve the quality and outcomes for patients and to improve communication across the system.

14.3 The Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy for 2013-2017 aims to:

- a) **Ensure improved and simplified arrangements for urgent and emergency care** – by developing a simply designed and rationalised system supported by easy telephone and web access - by reducing the confusion in the system by making the entry points more efficient to reflect a new and sustainable 24/7 system.
- b) **Ensure strong patient-centred clinical leadership in all access points of the urgent and emergency care system** - Senior clinical decision makers will be a fundamental part of the system and their decisions will be made early and regularly in a patients care pathway.
- c) **Provide better value for money and sustainability – Improving appropriate use of urgent care facilities and services.** Reducing inappropriate use of NHS services, to deliver better value for the taxpayer, for local organisations and to provide a financially sustainable system for the future. A reduction in unnecessary ED, ambulance and emergency admissions are a focus of the strategy.
- d) **Provide greater consistency and openness, transparency and candour** – by providing consistently high quality, integrated care led by our Clinical Commissioning Group delivering the best outcomes and experience 24/7, with no noticeable differences out of normal office hours. A culture of openness and insight will be developed and action taken where honest concerns about the standards or safety of services are made.
- e) **Ensure improved quality, safety and standards** - Deliver up-to-date, high quality services which are clearly focused on meeting the clinical needs of the patient and putting the patient's needs first, with less variation across the city and ingrained in a culture of continuous improvement. NHS standards will be applied.
- f) **Ensure improved patient experience** - Ensuring a greater focus on the patient journey through compassionate, caring and continuous improvement in response to patient and carer feedback. We will include our patients in our work;
- g) **Provide greater integration and information** - Services working together to provide a seamless service, irrespective of the provider organisations which operate them. Sharing of information and regular reporting of the outcomes of the patient pathway will be ingrained in the system using the latest IT facilities where possible;

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- h) **No blame culture** - The strategy will support a 'No Blame Culture' with clinicians, managers and services working together to improve the services offered to patients.

14.4 The Urgent and Emergency Care Strategic Objectives include:

- a) Improved Assessment and Discharge in all access points;
- b) Managing Patient Expectation by clinicians working together;
- c) Standardising and Improving Quality in Urgent Care by ensuring services are high quality and clinically robust;
- d) Improve Timely Access to Services by improving access and operating hours;
- e) Encourage Self-Care (where ever possible) by communicating with our patients;
- f) Use of Risk Stratification by managing patients who are at high risk of admission into hospital;
- g) Improved Communication by using technology and promotional campaigns;
- h) Seamless and consistent urgent and emergency care services by ensuring all providers are managed through a whole system approach;
- i) Explore and develop alternative solutions by ensuring new solutions to improve quality within the system are identified, considered and delivered.

14.5 A Phased Approach to delivery

- 14.5.1 It is the intention of the U&ECB that the Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy is delivered in phases:



- 14.5.2 **PHASE 1, CONSULT (deliverable December 2013 – December 2014).** A consultation process will be undertaken in phase 1 to understand areas of concern our patients and stakeholders identify with the draft Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy and how they want us to continue to involve them through the development of communication and promotional campaigns in 2014. The consultation process will include a feedback report that will provide patients with an update on how their views have helped us to shape the future. The exercise will inform the implementation plan to deliver real and sustainable change across the system. We will also undertake an Equality Analysis to assess how well existing services are meeting diverse needs, and how any future proposals for change may impact different groups.

- 14.5.3 **PHASE 2, IMPROVING PRIMARY CARE (deliverable November 2013 – December 2016)** - There is evidence from the literature, and a view from our patients that changes in

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primary care will help the urgent and emergency care system and therefore the board will focus in **phase 2** on delivering real change in Primary Care. This will include improved access to general practice. The out of hours service and the walk in centre at Showell Park will both relocate to be part of a new integrated 24/7 Urgent Care Centre at New Cross Hospital. The NHS Constitution outlines the principle that Access to NHS services is based on clinical need and that our patients have a right to access NHS services. The NHS commits to provide convenient, easy access to services and the Wolverhampton Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy intends to deliver improvements in access to services for all patients using our services by providing the Urgent and Emergency Department 24/7.

Partnership working and involving our patients will be a theme that runs throughout. We will work together to develop pathways of care, to undertake focused work (particularly for 0-5's and over 65's).

PHASE 3, IMPROVING SECONDARY CARE (deliverable November 2013 – December 2016) will include work across the local health economy together with secondary care and patients to develop and implement the proposals for a new Emergency Department at New Cross Hospital with a view to opening its doors in early 2016. It is well documented that the existing Emergency Department at the Royal Wolverhampton Trust is not adequate for current service requirements with concerns about the sustained rise in activity and the resulting pressures, together with safety issues, particularly where patients are waiting in corridors due to the lack of space. This has focussed the urgent need for a new ED facility to address these concerns. The proposed Urgent and Emergency Department will provide high quality services for patients 24/7. Patients will receive assessment by senior clinicians early on in their care with assessment, treatment and discharge taking place as efficiently as possible. The outcomes for patients will be improved and links will be made back to GP practices when additional health support for onward referral is required (e.g. alcohol, mental health, social care support). There will be a fundamental improvement in communication across clinical and other health care services, to improve health inequalities, and to ensure that the urgent and emergency care system improves health outcomes for patients. Partnership working with social care and mental health partners will strengthen responses for patients who have mental health or social urgent and emergency care needs. Patients will be seen and treated regardless if their place of residence is in Wolverhampton or from other places across the country. In particular, partnership working with South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG, Walsall CCG and Cannock Chase CCG will be important to manage the flows in and out of the hospital; further details can be found in section 16.

14.5.4 **Phase 4, REVIEW AND AMEND** (ongoing) will include a continuous cycle of improvement with a commitment to on-going system capacity reviews to ensure that surges in activity can be managed effectively and where efficiencies are made, they can be reinvested in the system to manage future growth. IT systems will be developed to provide robust, accurate and timely data to support patient care, manage activity surges and to report concerns in the system from patients and staff. We will continue our work with commissioning leads for mental health, public health, end of life, social care, primary care and intermediate care to improve the preventative work undertaken to reduce hospital attendances and emergency admissions. Work with partners, providers and patients will continue to deliver improvements in the quality of services that we provide.

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15. Urgent and Emergency Care and Wider Strategies

- 15.1 **Addressing the Demand for Urgent and Emergency Care Services** - Prevention, self-management and primary care are areas that will provide the foundation for reducing demand in urgent care services.
- 15.2 **Understanding the needs** – Public Health are leading on a detailed understanding of the users of urgent care services, such as demographic characteristics which will highlight the appropriateness of attendance and assist in the development of prevention, self-management and primary care pathways to address inappropriate usage. Demographic profiling of service users and the associated diagnosis will enable implementation of targeted approaches to ensure effective and efficient use of urgent care services in the medium and long term. This will entail an audit of urgent care usage and mapping the reason for attendance against the urgent care specification. This will enable the identification of where individuals could have been more appropriately seen outside the urgent care system or highlight areas for prevention.
- 15.3 **Disease Prevention** - There are a number of existing strategies and services that address preventing disease, including the Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Strategy, infection prevention and control services, healthy lifestyles service, healthy schools programme, the work in early years and children's services. It is imperative that we build on what works well, and employ the evidence base to ensure we are doing as much as possible to address preventable illness and disease. The detailed urgent care profiling that Public Health are undertaking will identify specific areas for targeted approaches to preventing disease progression. In addition, the profiling will highlight 'quick wins' in the system, for example, ensuring all health and social care staff and residents in care homes have the influenza vaccine, or a system change to prevent patients requiring prescription renewals at the weekend.
- 15.4 **Improving Health and Wellbeing** - Whilst this strategy is focused on addressing the needs and demands in the urgent care system, it is important to acknowledge that reducing demand will require the organisations to consider their role in tackling the wider determinants of health. In order to effectively improve the health of the people of Wolverhampton, and reduce demand on health services, it is important to recognise the biggest gains will be made through improving the social and economic circumstances of residents, improving housing, educational attainment, employment and working conditions. Therefore success in tackling the wider determinants will only be achieved by all key organisations supporting the strategic direction for addressing these determinants of health in Wolverhampton, set by the Health and Well Being Board.
- 15.5 **Primary Care** - Effective, efficient and high quality primary care is essential in supporting the Urgent and Emergency Care system. A Primary and Community Care Strategy is currently in development and is aiming to provide greater capability, capacity and flexibility in primary and community care to increase the responsiveness to patients. Accessibility to general practice for urgent care needs has been highlighted by patients as an area that, if working effectively, would negate the need for patients to use services such as the ambulance service and ED, and will therefore be a priority for the new Primary and Community Strategy. Other likely priorities within the strategy will be to improve the integration of primary and community teams, based out of the hospital, to serve the current and future healthcare needs of the local health economy. Teams will have the necessary skills, capability, capacity and flexibility to respond to changing demands and will use agreed clinical pathways of care across a range of clinical conditions.

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Patients and the public will be key contributors to the development of the local strategy in terms of being involved in the delivery of their own care, the types of intervention they might receive, the feedback they could provide regarding the quality of services and the contribution that they can make to their own health and well-being. Primary and secondary prevention strategies will be a priority in order to prevent ill-health in the whole population and improve the quality of life and management of patients who have long term and/ or complex conditions.

The development of the Primary and Community Care Strategy and the delivery of such changes is a positive step forward for Wolverhampton. Key components of the strategy and mechanisms for delivery will be heavily influenced by the work undertaken in areas such as urgent and emergency care and long term conditions, and vice versa. The links to prevention, the development of clinical pathways of care and the responsiveness and accessibility for patients will ensure that health is managed in a more robust way and therefore reducing the need for urgent and emergency care. Effective, efficient and high quality primary care is essential in supporting urgent and emergency care.

15.6 Long Term Conditions Management - According to national evidence, over 17 million people in the UK report living with a long term condition (LTC). Currently, LTC's account for 70% of health and social care spend, 70% of unplanned admissions and 55% of all GP consultations. National evidence suggests that 1 in 3 people in England suffer from at least one LTC. In Wolverhampton for 2011, those with a Long-term activity-limiting illness (or long term condition) was recorded at 20.6% or 51,391 of the total population of 249,470. The England average was 18% in 2011.

The WCCG Long Term Conditions strategy is currently being developed, and will ensure that there is alignment with a number of other strategies such as the Health and Wellbeing Strategic Priorities, Urgent and Emergency Care, Intermediate Care, Local Authority Older People's strategy, and a continuation of close collaboration with Public Health colleagues in terms of early diagnosis, prevention and wellbeing. A core element of the strategy will be to improve pathways of care for disease areas (such as Diabetes), to understand and improve the impact of respiratory ailments on patients and to introduce Personalised Management Plans for patients with a confirmed long term condition. The intention of these tailor made plans is to ensure that patients are involved in the management of their condition but also to describe what they should do if their condition worsens.

The effective management of long term conditions will have a significant impact on urgent and emergency care, with patients using condition specialists aligned to their care rather than the reactive use of services such as ED and the ambulance service for when their conditions worsens. The emerging strategy is expected in mid-2014.

15.7 Intermediate Care - Intermediate care is defined as a range of services to promote faster recovery from illness, provide effective alternatives to hospital admission, support timely discharge from hospital, prevent premature admission to long term care and maximise independent living. Wolverhampton CCG has expanded the remit of the Intermediate Care programme to include residents of nursing and residential homes.

The programme of work has a number of work streams relating to Intermediate Care, Community Services and Nursing Homes. The following schemes, linked to reducing demand and freeing capacity in urgent care, are currently being developed:

- Improved step down provision for people after a period of acute care
- Development of a bed based intermediate care unit for step down provision for people after a period of acute care and step up provision for people to avoid an acute admission

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- Review of current Community Intermediate Care Team to develop a new service specification to include more focus on admissions avoidance
- Improved clinical support to nursing homes and their residents to prevent avoidable hospital admissions
- Review of the current falls service with a view to redesigning the provision to meet the needs of the local population. Reducing falls will reduce the number of ED attendances and hospital admissions.
- Investigate the possibility of all community services providing support and care for residents of residential and nursing homes
- Investigate the possibility of nursing homes and residential homes being able to access telephone support and diagnostics for residents via a single point of access

A CCG Intermediate Care and Community Services strategy is planned for production during 2013/14. The strategy will be aligned with other local strategies including the Health and Wellbeing strategic priorities, Urgent and Emergency Care, Long Term Conditions and the Local Authorities Older Peoples strategy.

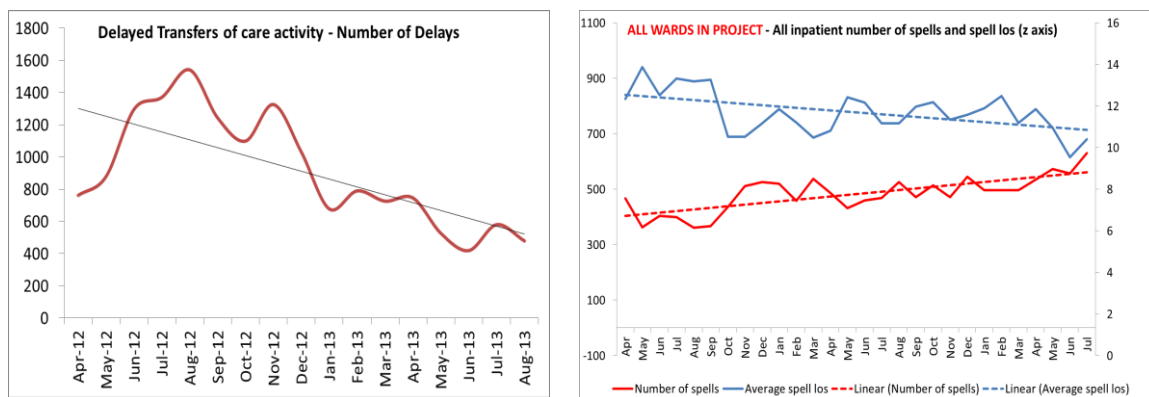
15.8 Mental Health Management - If a person's mental or emotional state gets worse quickly, this can be called a mental health emergency or mental health crisis. In this situation, it is important for them to get help quickly to stop the person harming themselves or others. The overall ambition of the revised Mental Health Strategy is to provide proactive and responsive services within primary and secondary care services to ensure patients know what to do in a crisis. By working with patients to improve their longer term care and to plan for urgent situations, there will be improved patient experience, health outcomes and a resulting reduction in the need for ED and in-patient services within the city. Work will also be undertaken to ensure that when a crisis does occur, the responsiveness of Mental Health teams is improved.

Targeted schemes of mental health promotion, early intervention and wellbeing initiatives will also be undertaken with a focus on children and young people, at risks groups such as carers, people from BME groups, people who misuse substances and the unemployed. Partnership working with Mental Health Commissioners and providers of care will continue.

15.9 Social Care – WCC provide social work support in community settings and within the acute trust to support vulnerable adults. These teams have access to a range of provision with a focus on maintaining support within the individuals own community through short term reablement residential and community teams. Social care is a significant factor in the needs of patients who access urgent and emergency care services and as a result social care support to the Emergency Department will continue to prevent hospital admissions.

WCC have worked with the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust to develop an integrated hospital team that is already improving the quality of discharge for individuals and decreasing both lengths of stay and Delayed Transfers of Care. The team have control over resources outside of the hospital to ensure that appropriate placements are made with the aim of helping people back to their own homes. The chart below shows the impact of this work with 4166 bed days saved to July 2013.

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15.10 End of Life Care - A new End of Life Care Strategy for Wolverhampton is currently in development with the aim of further developing the service offered to patients considered to be within the last year of their life to support them to die in their place of choice. There are some key areas of focus within the new strategy, one of which includes the facilitation of Preferred Priorities for Care/ Advance Care Plans. The care plans will be developed with the patients, their families, carers and professionals involved in their care to ensure everyone is aware of the wishes and feelings of those at the end of life. The plans will ensure clarity on what should happen when a patient's condition deteriorates, what should be expected and what to do if there is an urgent need or crisis.

The plans will be used to improve communication between agencies, including the ambulance service, through the development of a shared record which will detail an individual's preferences, particularly where the patient wishes to die in their usual place of residence. Workforce development will also be undertaken to ensure they have the necessary skills to deliver individualised end of life care, in accordance with Preferred Priorities for Care/ Advance Care Plans such as effective symptom management. The first draft of the strategy will be available in late 2013.

15.11 West Midlands Ambulance Service - Work is being undertaken to upgrade paramedic skills to enable further diagnostic skills to treat patients in the right setting first time with Community Paramedic schemes, (a hub model for efficiencies) and Hospital Ambulance Liaison Officers (HALOs) are being established to better support the acute and community services. WMAS is continuing to develop the Directory of Services (DoS) that supports the identification of alternative services for appropriate patients who call 999, the new 111 number and for utilisation by health care professionals with patients. Work is also underway to identify frequent service users with the intention of reducing the number of 999 calls to WMAS through a multi-disciplinary approach. It is the intention of the Urgent and Emergency Care Board that this work continues.

16. Non Wolverhampton Residents Who Use Our Services

16.1 South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG

16.1.1 Prevention - Within south Staffordshire there is a focus on increasing access in primary care through additional urgent care appointments and prevention of hospital admission, through the introduction of a falls team, care home education and a focus on holistic case management across an integrated health and social care community team. These teams are undertaking risk stratification and working with high volume users of services to avoid them attending a hospital setting in an urgent situation.

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16.1.2 **Supporting Early Discharge** - Once a Staffordshire patient has been admitted to New Cross Hospital, there is an integrated South Staffordshire Hospital Discharge Team located within the hospital to support patients to return to their usual place of residence. The team is based with the hospital's capacity team and work with support from reablement teams and case managers within the community linked directly to GP practice. If the patient requires longer rehabilitation the team can source community beds via the Urgent Care Support Service.

16.2 Walsall CCG

16.2.1 **Prevention** - Walsall has been working with GP's, Walsall Healthcare Trust and Social Care & Inclusion to develop a model of care which is more integrated and delivers a rapid response to those elderly patients who are unwell, but can be maintained safely and appropriately in their own home, thus avoiding a hospital admission. More recent changes in District Nursing will support the implementation of risk stratification and the work undertaken with WMAS for high users of their services.

16.2.2 **Supporting Early Discharge** – Walsall Council's reablement services have been redesigned to put a greater emphasis upon supporting earlier discharge and maximising patient's independence and well-being. There is also a single point of contact for patients who require intermediate care services to facilitate early discharge.

16.3 Cannock Chase CCG

16.3.1 **Prevention** - The focus within CC CCG is to have an emergency and urgent care system which meets the needs of the local population and ensures that people are treated in the right place by the right health care professional. The aim is to increase primary management through increased emergency capacity and the development of an acute visiting service. There is a commitment to reducing emergency hospital admissions through the use of the falls team, case management and integrated pathways of care. The CC CCG is currently working with Mid Staffordshire Foundation Trust to develop an ambulatory care unit which will provide rapid assessment, diagnosis and treatment without hospital admission.

16.3.2 **Supporting Early Discharge** - Cannock Chase CCG have commissioned a range of services to support discharge from acute hospitals. These include a bed based service at Cannock Chase Hospital and a large range of community Services including the Support Discharge Service, Community Intervention Service, and Community Matrons. They have also commissioned a range of specialist services which include the Community Stroke Team, the Respiratory Care Service and Heart Failure Team.

16.4 **Trust Special Administrators (TSA) - Changes to Cannock and Stafford Hospitals (taken from public documents)** – the TSA have suggested a number of changes to the existing system in Stafford and Cannock however they have suggested that the Accident and Emergency services remain open during the current opening hours of 8am and 10pm at Stafford Hospital and for Cannock Chase Hospital to continue to provide a Minor Injuries Unit from 8am to midnight daily rather than a full Emergency Department. It is unclear at this stage what the expected impact of the proposals for changes to the system in Stafford and Cannock will have in Wolverhampton or exactly what will be agreed, however the Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy outlines the changes at the front door of ED which will allow the system to flex to cater for patients from other CCG areas through the UCC or ED. The ability to flex resources and refer back into the community teams will be vital to managing fluctuations in activity, particularly for those patients from other areas who attend or have had an emergency admission at New Cross Hospital.

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17. Delivery of Urgent and Emergency Care

17.1 The **Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board** will provide the leadership and governance to oversee the delivery of the urgent and emergency care strategy and implementation plan together with having the responsibility for overseeing the delivery of the short to medium term A&E Recovery Plan. Workstreams will be developed to deliver the implementation plan and workstream leads will report to the Urgent and Emergency Care Board. The following groups will also feed into the Board:

- a) **Black Country Urgent Care Group** - This group manages urgent and emergency care across the Black Country and regularly considers models of care that have been tested elsewhere and which have been seen to work. It also reviews the existing system and the impact of current pressures, the impact of schemes such as NHS111, WMAS, discussion of fines and targets, out of hours contracts and cluster opinion of implementing guidance. It is imperative that the work of this group is considered as there are clear links to developments that can support the growing surges in activity. Collaborative commissioning can be undertaken where economies of scale will provide benefit to the wider urgent and emergency care system.
- b) **Wolverhampton Surge Planning Group** - The Surge Planning Group provides resilience support to the current urgent and emergency care system by advising on tactical changes to manage surges in activity across Wolverhampton. The primary focus is on the urgent care system, the impact of pressure on those services and the decisions that need to be taken to alleviate the immediate pressures. This group will work to deliver the A&E Recovery Plan but the work will be overseen by the Urgent and Emergency Care Board. The groups chair is a member of the Urgent and Emergency Care Board.
- c) **Emergency Portal Board** - The Emergency Portal Board has been created to develop the outline and full business case for the new Emergency Department at the New Cross site and the Urgent Care Centre. This development links directly to the strategy.

18. Expected Benefits of the Strategy

18.1 The strategy has been developed to set out the challenges to the system, the improvements that have been identified, and a phased approach to delivery. The strategy intends to make the system easier for patients to navigate to the right place for assessment and treatment and for services to respond in a timely way to reduce the burden on ED and emergency hospital admissions. The implementation plan will describe the service changes in detail.

18.2 The Equality Delivery System Goals and Outcomes will specifically achieved in the following areas:

18.2.1 **Better Health Outcomes for all – achieving improvements in patient health, public health and patient safety for all, based on comprehensive evidence of needs and results:**

- Services will be commissioned, designed and procured to meet the health needs of local communities, promote well-being and reduce health inequalities particularly in Urgent and Emergency Care. Extensive work has been undertaken to understand the views of our patients and to ensure the development of the strategy and the

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future changes to the Urgent and Emergency Care system meet the local needs of our patients.

- Individual patients health needs will be assessed and resulting services provided in appropriate and effective ways.
- Changes across services for individual patients will be discussed with them and transitions made smoothly particularly for the out of hours service and new walk in centre service. A 12 week consultation exercise will take place to ensure patients are clear of the proposed changes and how they will affect them.
- The safety of patients will be prioritised and assured. By bringing services together, the safety of patients will be assured through the optimal clinical model, safety standards and quality measures.

18.2.2 Improved patient access and experience – improve accessibility and information, and deliver the right services that are targeted, useful, useable, and used in order to improve patient experience:

- Patients, carers and communities will be able to readily access services and will not be denied access on unreasonable grounds. The new Urgent Care Centre will provide a service for patients 24 hours per day and will ensure that unregistered patients are supported to register with a GP practice for their on-going care.
- Patients will be informed and supported to be as involved as they wish to be in their diagnoses and decisions about their care and to exercise choice about the treatments and places of treatments. Through improved communication patients will understand which service is most appropriate for their care and they will be supported through their diagnosis and will be referred back to their own GP for onward referral if required.
- Patients and carers will report positive experiences of their treatment, care outcomes, of being listened to and respected and of how their privacy and dignity is prioritised. New pathways of care, improved communication and a supportive system for patients where clinicians can work together to ensure patients experiences of their treatment is improved.
- Patients and carers complaints about services and subsequent claims for redress should be handled respectfully and efficiently. There is a continual need to listen to patients and take action on their concerns. Ongoing changes should be made where complaints about services highlight safety concerns or service improvements.

18.2.3 Empowered engaged and well supported staff - increase the diversity and quality of the working lives of the paid and non-paid workforce supporting all staff to better respond to patients and community's needs:

- Through support training, personal development and performance appraisal staff will be confident and competent to do their work so that services are commissioned and provided appropriately;
- Staff should be free from abuse, harassment, bullying, violence from both patients and their relatives and colleagues with redress being open and fair to all. Transparency and the 'no blame' culture will be supportive of staff and patients.

18.2.4 Inclusive leadership at all levels –ensure that equality is everyone's business and everyone is expected to take an active part supported by the work of specialist equality leaders and champions.

18.3 The true benefits of this work will emerge over time however the initial aspirations include:

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1. 20% of current ED attendances to be diverted to the new UCC by 2016;
 2. The sustainable delivery of the 95% ED target will be achieved 98% of the time;
 3. Reduced Emergency Admissions by 2016;
 4. Patients who arrive at ED by ambulance will be assessed by a clinician within 15 minutes;
 5. An increase in GP appointments for urgent requests by 2016/17;
 6. Improved mental health response times within the ED to improve urgent care provision for patients in crisis by 2016/17.
- 18.4 Success will result in a reconfigured urgent and emergency care system that is organised, effective and efficient and where our patients can find the right care, at the right time, first time. Communication will be improved and our patients will be empowered to know the right service available for their needs.
- 18.5 The Equality Analysis we conduct will ensure that we can identify where there may be gaps in provision for protected characteristic groups, and that proposed changes to the Urgent and Emergency Care system are assessed for their potential impact and are consistent with the Public Sector Equality Act duties of all the NHS and social care organisations involved in this strategy.

19. Engagement with our Patients and Stakeholders

- 19.1 Patient and stakeholders views have been fundamental to the development of the strategy. It is the intention of the Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board to consult on the strategy to ensure that our patients, partners and stakeholders are able to help us to shape the future. It is also our intention to understand how our patients and stakeholders want to continue to be involved to ensure the future developments are inclusive.
- 19.2 The timescales for the consultation are not yet available however we are planning from it to run from December 2013 through to February 2014. The consultation will be dependent upon agreement by the Health and Well Being Board, the Health Scrutiny Panel and the WCCG and RWT boards prior to the consultation process beginning.
- 19.3 The Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Board will provide the governance structure required to oversee the consultation and the delivery of the strategy through the implementation plan and workstreams.
- 19.4 A separate public facing consultation document has been developed with patients, together with a Communications and Engagement plan to ensure that we reach as many people who use our services as possible.
- 19.5 Once the consultation process has taken place, it is important that feedback is given to the public on the outcomes of the consultation process and furthermore, any changes made to the system. Regular updates will be required to continue to keep patients and wider stakeholders engaged and to communicate the achievement of milestones.

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20. Conclusion

- 20.1 This strategy describes the importance of changing the delivery of urgent and emergency care within Wolverhampton to improve the quality and affordability of services for people using our services. The importance of delivering a streamlined and efficient system must not be taken lightly. The current system is not sustainable given the levels of pressure that it has been experiencing and we must do things differently.
- 20.2 The Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy has been developed to improve quality across the system and to respond to the changing landscape of the local and national health economy. The system has seen extreme pressure in 2012 which has continued into 2013/14. It is imperative that the urgent and emergency care system sees improvements prior to winter 2013/14 when further pressure is expected but that we also plan for the future.
- 20.3 Our patients have suggested that the system is confusing and they are not sure where to go for their urgent and emergency care need particularly at different times of the day. Healthcare professionals confirm that the ED is “not fit for purpose”, service provision can be confusing and timeliness is a factor causing delays across the system.
- 20.4 Our patient’s voice is vital in ensuring that services provide high quality and appropriate pathways across organisational boundaries. Our links with Wolverhampton’s Healthwatch will become increasingly important to deliver such an ambitious strategy.
- 20.5 The draft strategy will be amended in late 2013 further to comments from the Health and Well Being Board and Health Scrutiny prior to the consultation process. Further amendments to the strategy may be made, if required, further to the consultation process.
- 20.6 It is our intention that our patients receive the right care, right place, first time. To achieve this, the existing urgent and emergency care system must change.

Appendices

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Joint Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

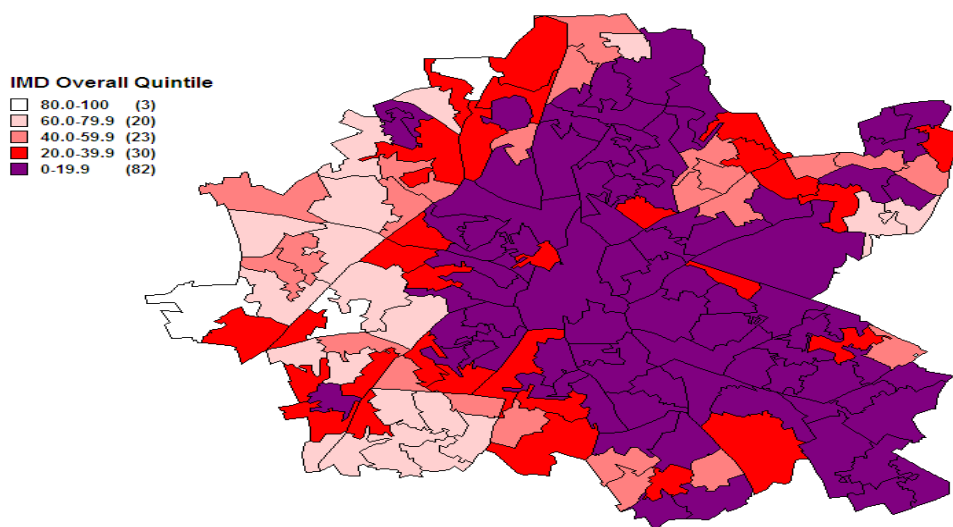
21. Appendix 1 - Equality and Diversity

- 21.1 All Urgent and Emergency Care services will ensure that services are appropriate and do not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or beliefs, sex or sexual orientation.
- 21.2 NHS Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) is fully committed to promoting equality of opportunity, eliminating unlawful and unfair discrimination and valuing diversity. As a result the Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy will ensure:
- Urgent care services that will be accessible, high quality health services on the basis of clinical need, tailored appropriately to the different healthcare needs of the various groups in the community we serve;
 - That barriers to accessing services are identified and removed or reduced. No person will be treated less favourably on the grounds of their protected characteristics or any other factor that it would be inequitable to take in to account;
 - That our premises do not create barriers, physical or social for service users or employees;
 - Communicate effectively and ensure that the information we provide is accessible easy to understand, relevant and appropriate.
- 21.3 The protected characteristics covered by the public sector equality duty (Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) are:
- a. Age: This refers to a person having a particular age (eg 32 years old) or being within an age band (21-25, 46-50 years old)
 - b. Disability: A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities
 - c. Gender reassignment: This is the process of transitioning from one gender to another. A person who is Transgender is someone who expresses themselves in a different gender to the gender they were assigned at both. Although the legislation covers gender reassignment, we recognise the term 'trans' better encompasses the wider community.
 - d. Marriage and civil partnership: A union between a man and a woman or the legal recognition of a same-sex couple's relationship
 - e. Pregnancy and maternity: The condition of being pregnant or the period after giving birth. It is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.
 - f. Race: This refers to a group of people defined by their skin colour, nationality (including citizenship), ethnic or national origins
 - g. Religion or belief: Religion means the religion a person belongs to and a belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including a lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition (political views are not included)
 - h. Sex: Being either a man or a woman
 - i. Sexual orientation: Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.
- Where services are required based on age, the reason will be on the grounds of service provision such as children's services or services aimed specifically at older adults due to the nature of their conditions.

22. Appendix 2 - Demographics

- 22.1 Wolverhampton's resident population is approximately 249,500, although the registered population is reported as 236,000. It is one of the most densely populated places in the country, with nearly 9,000 residents per square mile.
- 22.2 About a quarter of the population is of black and minority ethnic (BME) origin. The biggest growth in the population is likely to be in this group with BME communities constituting around one third of the city's population by 2026.
- 22.3 Births have increased in the last 8 years leading to an increase in the 0-19 age group. 75% of these births are in the most deprived areas. This contributes to increased child poverty and intergenerational cycles of ill-health.
- Wolverhampton is ranked 21st most deprived out of 354 local authorities. Deprivation is not concentrated in a few areas – almost half of the city's neighbourhoods are amongst the 20% most deprived in the country. Deprivation is focussed in the North East and South East.
 - Social marketing tools demonstrate distinct groups that will respond to services and health promotion in different ways.
 - Deprivation is correlated with poor lifestyles, high morbidity and high mortality.

Index of Multiple Deprivation Score 2010

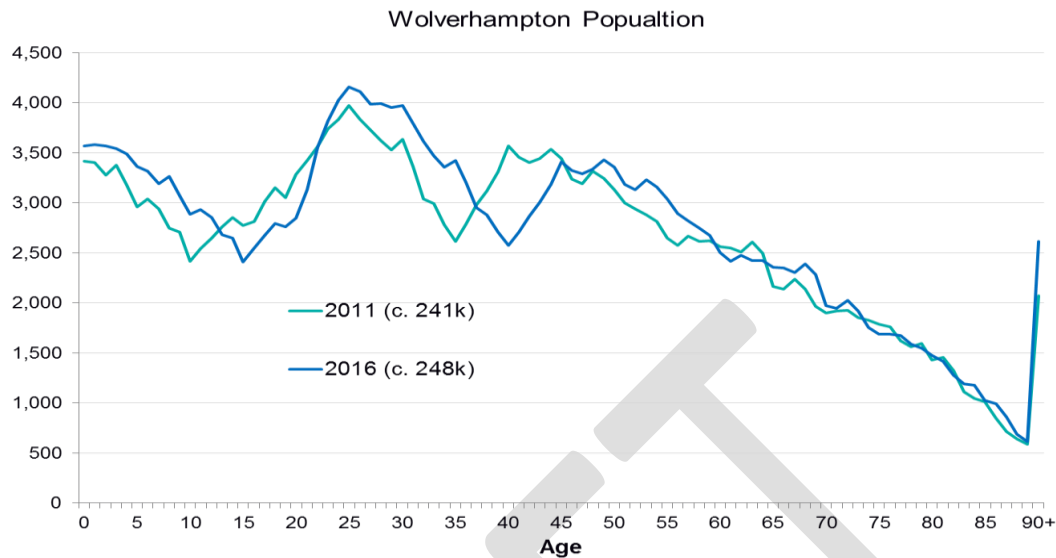


Communities.gov.uk
Source: ICP, WCCG, 2013

- 22.4 Population Size and Age Profile in Urgent and Emergency Care - The chart below shows the changes in population size and age profile from 2012 to 2016.

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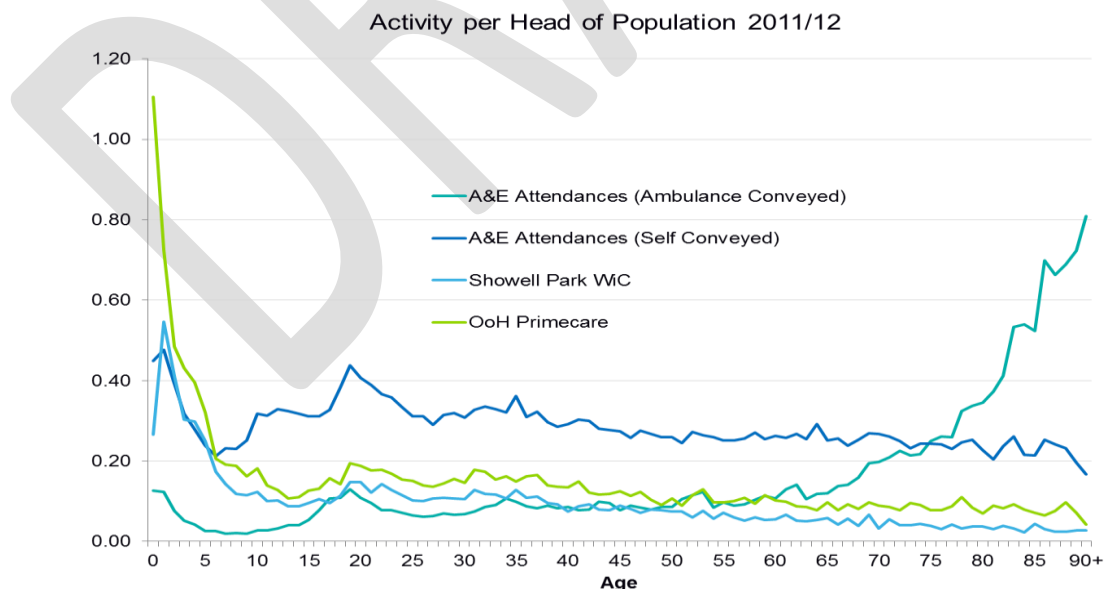
3a&b – Population Size and Age Profile (2)



Source : ONS 2010 based sub-national population projections

22.5 The chart below shows the activity levels at the ED, the Out of Hours service and one of the walk in centres in Wolverhampton (Showell Park) during the year 2011/12. There is a significant peak in activity for children 0-5 years in the out of hours period but also for ED attendances (both ambulance and self conveyed) together with a peak in older adults that are conveyed via an ambulance.

3a&b – Population Size and Age Profile (1)



Source : SUS A&E, Showell Park MDS, Primecare MDS 2011/12

22.6 Risk Factors - There are a number of significant risk factors for the population of Wolverhampton including:

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- Obesity, smoking, physical inactivity and high alcohol consumption are all risk factors for circulatory disease mortality
- Obesity, smoking, physical inactivity and high alcohol consumption are all risk factors for cancer mortality
- High alcohol consumption is a precursor to alcohol related mortality
- Smoking in pregnancy and high rates of teenage conceptions increases the risk of infant mortality
- Smoking in pregnancy and high rates of teenage conceptions increases the risk of infant mortality.
- A bout of flu will reduce quality of life for people with long term conditions and increase unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions.
- Parental smoking are risk factors for emergency admissions for children (particularly around asthma and lower respiratory tract infections)
- Obesity and smoking impacts on effective recovery following any health event. Obesity can particularly effect recovery following hip or knee replacement

Source: ICP, WCCG, 2013

22.7 The Big Six - The gap **between** life expectancy in Wolverhampton and England and Wales is driven by six causes of death – infant mortality, coronary heart disease, alcohol related mortality, suicide, lung cancer and stroke. Further to the review of our demographics, the following areas require addressing:

- High attendance rates at ED
- Prevalence of epilepsy – hospital admissions as a result of epilepsy for children
- Stroke admissions
- Asthma for adults and children
- Emergency admissions for lower respiratory tract infections for children
- Need to transfer care from emergency care to primary care. This should be focused on high need groups.
- Close work with social care to support recovery following discharge from hospital.
- More detailed data on emergency hospital admissions.

22.8 Wolverhampton has one of the highest ED attendance rates in the country however one of the lowest attendance to admission ratios. This means that there are a high number of people attending ED however there are a low number of attendances that turn into an admission.

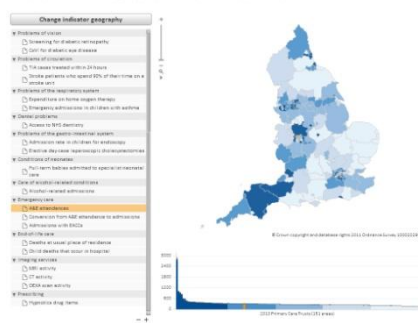
22.9 NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011 - The NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare shows the prevalence rates for a number of different areas, mostly planned or Long Term Conditions. However there are a number of areas that relate to Urgent and Emergency Care.

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Rate of Accident and Emergency Attendances per 100,000 population by PCT (2010)

NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011

Rate (DSR) of accident and emergency (A&E) attendances per 100,000 population by PCT, 2010

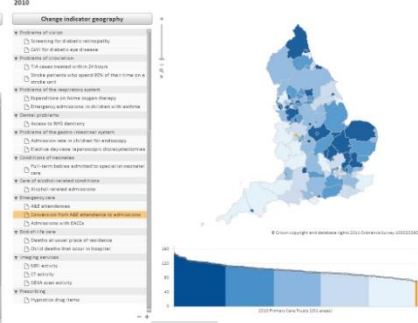


Wolverhampton has one of the highest rates

Rate per 100,000 of conversion from Accident and Emergency to admission by PCT (2010)

NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011

Rate (DSR) per 100,000 of conversion from accident and emergency (A&E) attendance to admissions by PCT, 2010

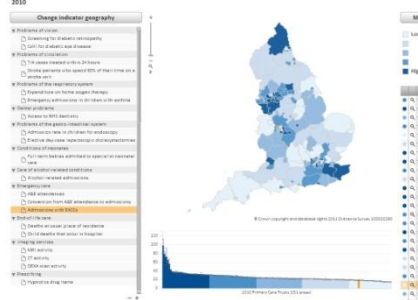


Wolverhampton has one of the lowest A and E attendances to admission rates

Rate of admission with emergency ambulatory care conditions (EACC's) per 100,000 population by PCT (2010)

NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011

Rate (DSR) of admissions with emergency ambulatory care conditions (EACC) per 100,000 population by PCT, 2010

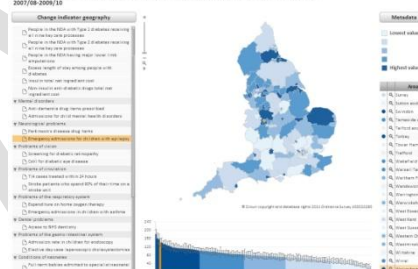


Wolverhampton has one of the lowest rates

Emergency admission rate (DSR) for children with Epilepsy per 100,000 population aged 0-17 years by PCT (2007/08-2009/10)

NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011

Emergency admission rate (DSR) for children with epilepsy per 100,000 population aged 0-17 years by PCT, 2007/08-2009/10



Wolverhampton has one of the highest rates

Source: NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare 2011 (<http://www.sepho.org.uk/extras/maps/NHSAtlas2011/atlas.html>)

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23. Appendix 3 - Strategic Context Supporting Information

- 23.1 Urgent and Emergency care has particular significance to commissioners due to:
- Clinical safety issues
 - The changing expectations and experience of patients as a result of a 24/7 culture
 - The unacceptable variation in quality and availability in some services
 - The volume of the work and high visibility to all
 - The increasing demand for some services
 - The duplication in the system
 - The complexity of service provision, including primary care, acute hospitals, ambulance services, mental health services, pharmacies, social services and third sector
 - Escalating costs
 - The challenge to make efficiency savings in the NHS
 - High profile and press and media interest
 - The changing political context.
- 23.2 It is important to ensure that the urgent and emergency care system is 'integrated'. One service affects the other therefore it is imperative that they are commissioned as part of a system.
- 23.3 The King's Fund report "Managing Emergency Activity – Urgent Care" May 2011, summarised some of the key reasons why urgent and emergency care is important:
- Urgent care services are currently often highly fragmented and generate confusion among patients about how and where to access care
 - Poor sharing of information as patients move between different providers of care in an emergency is a cause of many significant failures of care
 - The quality of out-of-hours care is highly variable, particularly in terms of continuity of care, leading to variable patient experiences
 - The growth of new forms of urgent care has failed to reduce A and E attendances. For example, emergency attendances in England rose by 46% between 2003/04 and 2009/10 (however, from 2004 the data also included Walk In Centres and Minor Injury Centres with ED attendances increasing around 6% per annum and Emergency 999 calls over 8 million in 2010/11 with demand rising at 4% per annum)
 - Walk-in centres do not appear to have led to shorter waits in general practice or lower admission rates at other health care providers
 - Emergency admissions have also grown rapidly. The number of emergency admissions in England rose by 11.8% between 2004/05 to 2008/09 – resulting in around 1.35 million extra admissions.

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24. Appendix 4 – Addition - Local and National Drivers

- NHS England – National Commissioning Board
- Emergency Department Development
- NHS 111
- Achievement of Hyper Acute Stroke Unit Status (HASU) at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

24.1 NHS England (National Commissioning Board)

24.1.1 NHS England supports NHS services nationally and ensures that money spent on NHS services provides the best possible care for patients. It funds local clinical commissioning groups to commission services for their communities and ensures that they do this effectively.

24.1.2 Some specialist services will continue to be commissioned by NHS England centrally where this is most efficient. Working with leading health specialists, NHS England brings together expertise to ensure national standards are consistently in place across the country. Throughout its work it promotes the NHS Constitution and the Constitution's values and commitments. Formally established as the NHS Commissioning Board on 1 October 2012, NHS England an independent body, at arm's length to the Government. The area team will ensure the development and delivery of A&E Recovery plans regionally.

24.2 The Emergency Department Development

24.2.1 The Emergency Portal Board is developing an outline business case for the new Emergency Department which is scheduled to open its doors in early 2016. A Planning Application for the redevelopment of the New Cross site was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council and received approval in 2010. This included outline planning approval for a new Emergency Centre.

24.2.2 The Outline Business Case will focus on the provision of redesigned services within a new facility which will support operational benefits for Emergency Services with the Trust. It will also afford the opportunity for the development of the required system changes within the existing urgent and emergency care system and the introduction of a new Primary Care Centre which will be open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

24.2.3 It is proposed that the new facility will be provided on a phased basis. Phase 1 is proposed to include a new Emergency Department and supporting ambulatory and diagnostic facilities and the PCC. Subsequent phases of the development are proposed and include a second and third floor housing Emergency Admissions Units for Children (PAU), Medical Patients (AMU), Surgical Patients (SAU) and a proposed Clinical decisions Unit (CDU). The new ED Business case is tightly linked to the emerging Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy and work has been undertaken to provide assurance to the CCG's that the new ED will improve quality.

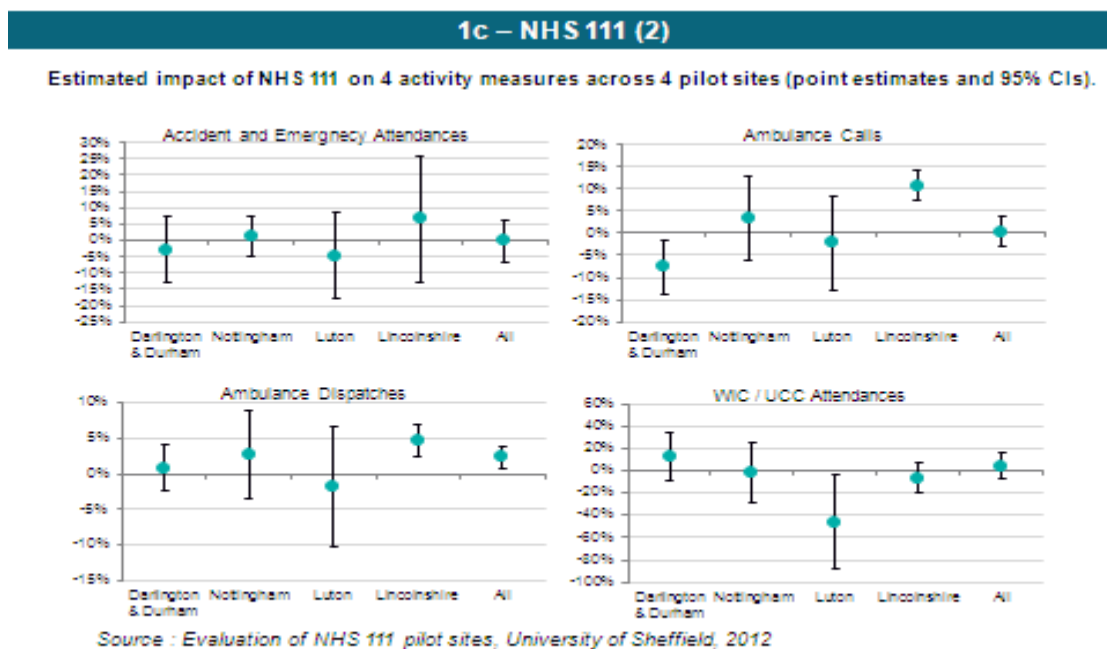
24.3 NHS 111

24.3.1 NHS111 has been introduced to Wolverhampton in 2013 and is a new service to make it easier for patients to access local NHS healthcare services. Patients can call

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111 when they need medical help fast but when it is not a 999 emergency. The intention is that through access to a directory of services, NHS111 will be able to direct patients to the most appropriate service such as pharmacies, GP practices and walk in centres as an alternative to ED when they are unsure where to go.

24.3.2 As this is a new service, it is unclear of the impact of NHS111 on activity and costs. Pilot sites have shown varying results but as the chart below shows, the overall impact was limited with the exception of Ambulance dispatches. It should be noted that the impact of NHS111 may be very different to the pilots once the national service embeds.



How will these change after full launch of NHS 111?

40

24.3.3 It is important that work is undertaken to focus on activity to ensure that 111 sends Wolverhampton patients to the right services at the right time and that gaps in services are identified

24.4 Regional Review of Stroke Services

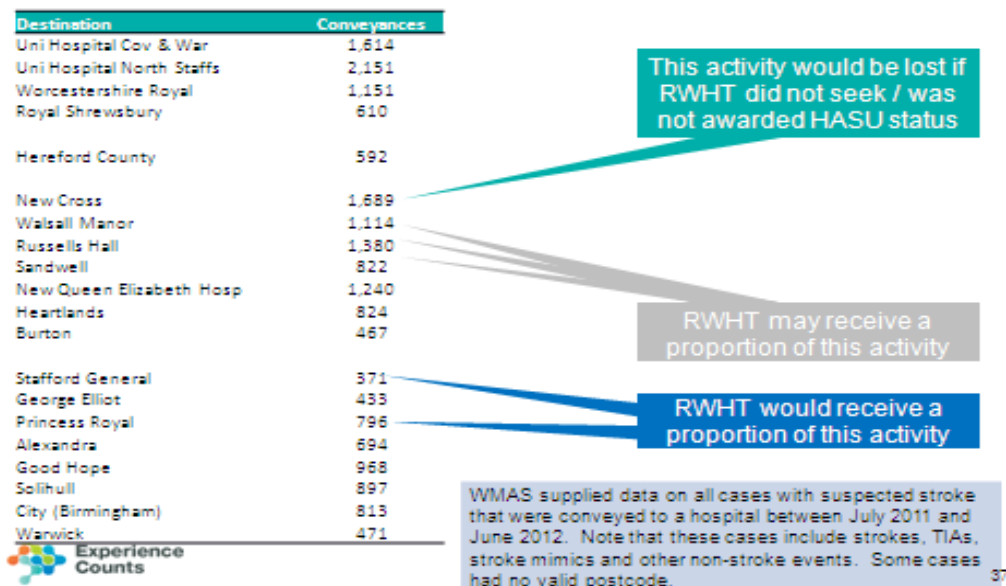
24.4.1 In May 2012, it was announced that the NHS Midlands and East will be undertaking a review of stroke services, including the provision of Hyper Acute Stroke Services. The purpose of the review is to achieve a step change improvement in the quality of stroke services and stroke outcomes. The Royal Wolverhampton Trust is engaging in this review process to develop a proposal to deliver stroke services across the whole pathway including hyper acute services.

24.4.2 The Hyper Acute Service has been established in Wolverhampton for a number of years and provides a service to 600+ stroke patients. In 2009, the Trust doubled its stroke catchment area to provide hyper acute and acute stroke services to a wider catchment area, which increased the number of stroke patients attending the Trust.
Source: Emergency Portal Outline Business Case

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1b - Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (1)

WMA S Conveyances for Suspected Stroke July 2011 to June 2012



24.4.3 The chart above shows the activity that is attributed for suspected Stroke between July 2011 and June 2012.

24.4.4 The decision on HASU status remains unclear and the outcome of RWT achieving Hyper Acute Stroke Unit Status will certainly impact the activity levels and service provision at RWT particularly within the Emergency Department.

24.4.5 If HASU is not awarded to RWT, almost 1700 patients annually will attend surrounding Hospital Trusts for suspected strokes. This will reduce the activity and service provision required at RWT and will divert the ambulance activity away from the hospital site.

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25. Appendix 5 - Existing Service Descriptions

25.1 In Wolverhampton the existing urgent and emergency care system includes the following, and these services should therefore be considered as within the scope of this strategy.

Service Name	Description
Self-Care & NHS Choices	Where appropriate, Patients are encouraged to look after themselves by self-caring. This may include resting or reviewing websites such as NHS Choices to review the symptom checker for the best course of action. This can now link into the new 111 service.
Pharmacists	Patients self-caring (or looking after themselves) by using over the counter medicines and/or advice and support from Pharmacists at Pharmacy shops based across the city. Pharmacists and chemists play a key role in providing quality healthcare to patients.
General Practice (GP) Practices	There are currently 51 General Practices within Wolverhampton and 9 within Seisdon Peninsula. Usually open from 8am-6.30 pm Mon-Fri with some practices undertaking Saturday morning opening.
Walk in Centres (WiC)	There are currently 2 walk in centres across the city including at the Phoenix Centre (nurse led) and Showell Park (GP led), both providing 'walk in' primary care services.
Urgent Social Care	The rapid response required by social services where patients are in crisis or require urgent support both in the community and within a hospital setting.
Urgent Mental Health	The rapid response required by mental health services where patients are in crisis or require urgent support both in the community and within a hospital setting. If a person's mental or emotional state quickly worsens, this can be treated as a mental health emergency or mental health crisis.
Urgent Community Nursing Teams	The rapid response required by community teams where patients are in crisis or require urgent support both in the community and within a hospital setting and includes:
➤ CICT	A rapid response service providing nursing and rehabilitation care in the community, patients own homes and a hospital setting to facilitate discharge.
➤ Hospital at Home	Community Hospital at Home focuses on specific conditions that are amenable to care in the community preventing a hospital admission from primary care or Emergency Department or facilitating reduced LOS from AMU or the wards. Conditions such as IV antibacterials for Cellulitis, ESBL, IV steroids for MS patients, domiciliary management of patients with DVT, management of exacerbations of COPD.
➤ Community Matrons	The Community Matron Team delivers comprehensive, evidence-based holistic clinical assessments and interventions with the primary aim of reducing inappropriate/avoidable hospital admissions and where possible facilitating reduction in length of hospital stay for individuals with long term conditions.
➤ Tele Healthcare	Tele healthcare to support people with long term conditions, to enable them to understand their illness and manage it themselves, minimising the medical and social impact of the illness, avoiding unnecessary admissions to hospital, avoid unnecessary exacerbations and deteriorations, supporting patients who live at home, reducing the need for care in residential and nursing homes.

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SPAR	SPAR accepts referrals from within the Trust, GPs and other health professionals to District Nursing Service, CICT, Hospital at Home, Night Visiting Service, Tissue Viability and End of Life/Palliative Care. SPAR has a single contact number, with specific referral criteria for each service; it is a single access process for community services, run by a dedicated trained team that also provides WUCTAS.
West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (WMAS) - 999	Urgent and Emergency Ambulance services providing 'Hear and Treat', 'See and Treat' and 'See and Convey'. 999 should be used for life-threatening emergencies.
The New 111 Number (replacing NHS Direct)	Providing a telephone service to support less urgent responses required by patients. The service has access to a directory of services that allows 111 to navigate patients to the most appropriate place for their care.
Wolverhampton Urgent Care Telephone Access Service (WUCTAS)	A single point of access telephone service for Healthcare professionals only. Providing a range of alternatives to hospital attendance or admission including to a range of urgent diagnostic tests and clinical and community pathways/services. Open 10am to 7pm seven days a week. In addition to the SPAR element accepting referrals into community services
Out of Hours Primary Care Service	Providing an urgent general practice service for patients requiring a doctor in the out of hours period. A GP is always available from 6.30pm to 8am weekdays and all day weekends and bank holidays.
Care Homes (Residential & Nursing)	Since April 2002 all homes in England, Scotland and Wales are known as 'care homes', but are registered to provide different levels of care. A home registered simply as a care home providing personal care will provide personal care only - help with washing, dressing and giving medication. A home registered as a care home providing nursing care will provide the same personal care but also have a qualified nurse on duty twenty-four hours a day to carry out nursing tasks. These homes are for people who are physically or mentally frail or people who need regular attention from a nurse.
Emergency Department (ED)	ED (formerly A&E) departments assess and treat patients with serious injuries or illnesses. The Emergency Department offer access 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Accident and Emergency Department at New Cross Hospital has many services. In the main, it provides services for minor injury and illnesses, acute medical/surgical/paediatric emergencies, out of hours stroke thrombolysis, in patient head injury management, emergency hand surgery, elective minor surgical operations, an emergency medicine follow up clinic, eye casualty and a physiotherapy service.
Emergency Admissions including:	Emergency admissions – that is, admissions that are not predicted and happen at short notice because of perceived clinical need (NHS Connecting for Health 2010)
➤ PAU (Paediatric Assessment Unit)	Emergency hospital admissions unit for children (under 18 years). Admissions methods are via the GP, ED or other parts of the hospital including consultant referrals.
➤ AMU	Emergency admissions for patients who require an admission for general

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(Acute Medical Unit)

medical needs. The Emergency Assessment Unit is based at New Cross Hospital, it provides timely and accurate initial care for all emergency attendances with onsite senior decision making, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The service is open to all self-referrals, GP referrals and ambulance/paramedic delivered patients. Patients are seen, treated and discharged when appropriate, or resuscitated and referred on to the appropriate sub specialty medical/surgical team for further management.

➤ **SAU (Surgical Assessment Unit)**

Emergency admissions for patients requiring surgical assessment needs. The Unit receives patients who are over the age of 16 referred via Accident and Emergency, a General Practitioner or as a direct admission from a Consultant Clinic.

The ward is for patients who present with acute general surgical or urological problems. On arrival patients undergo rapid assessment, diagnosis, stabilization and/or treatment of their condition, prior to transfer to an appropriate area or discharge. Patients who require <48 hours in hospital will remain on the unit whilst patients who require admission for a period of greater than 48 hours will be transferred to the appropriate ward. This service is provided 24 hours, 7 days per week.

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26. Appendix 6 – Finance and Activity

26.1 To understand the financial implications of any proposed way forward, activity and finance modelling has been undertaken for all descriptions. A reference group was developed to ensure that the modelling was developed by primary and secondary care.

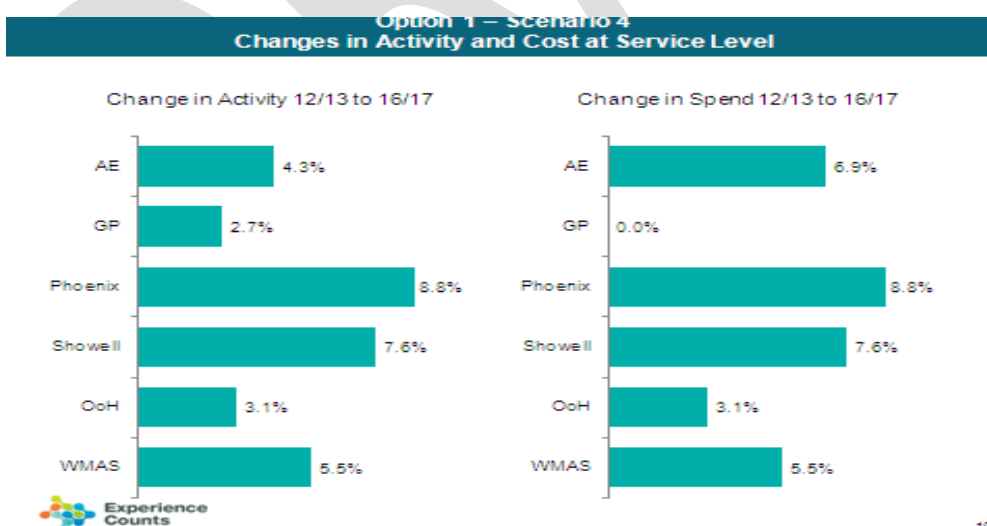
26.2 The reference group identified two imminent service configuration decisions that are likely to impact on future urgent care activity levels in Wolverhampton.

- the award of HASU status to a subset of acute hospitals
- the potential downgrade of the A&E service at Stafford Hospital

26.3 As a result, 6 scenarios were developed including if RWT was/was not awarded HASU status (or Dudley/Sandwell are) and if the ED department at Mid Staffs was/was not downgraded to an MIU.

Scenario	HASU	Mid Staffs A&E
1	× RWHT	no change
2	× RWHT	↓MIU
3	✓ RWHT & Sandwell	no change
4	✓ RWHT & Sandwell	↓MIU
5	✓ RWHT & Dudley	no change
6	✓ RWHT & Dudley	↓MIU

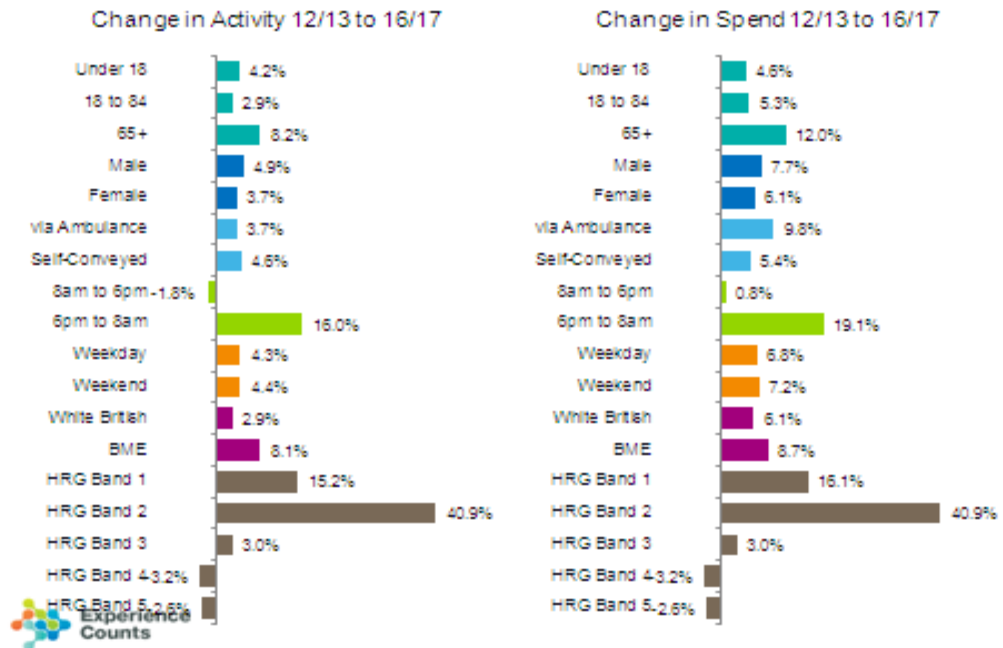
26.4 The system is complicated and modelling can never be exact however, the chart below shows the breakdown of the expected changes if 'no change' is made, RWT achieve HASU status and Mid Staffs is downgraded to an MIU.



26.5 The chart below details the breakdown of predicted activity from 2012/13 to 2016/17 if no changes are made.

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Option 1 – Scenario 4 (A&E Subgroups)



26.6 There is a significant increase in activity for older people (65+) together with more patients being seen in the out of hours period. Band's 1 and 2 are the more complex tariffs and see the most significant increase.

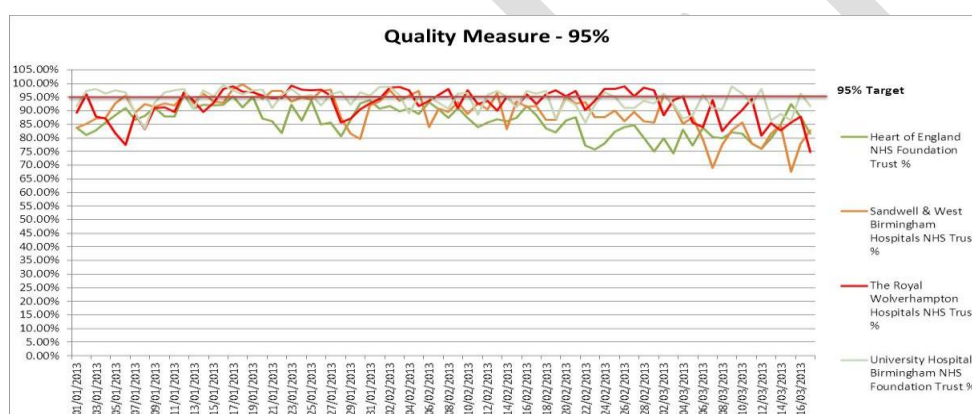
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27. Appendix 7 - The Case for Change Supporting Information

27.1 The existing system has improved and changed over recent years with investment in walk in centres, enhancements to general practice, a new out of hours GP service, changes to the Emergency Department amongst a whole host of other improvements. There are a number of significant reasons why it is imperative that we develop a future urgent and emergency care system that is sustainable:

27.2 **Quality measures are difficult to achieve (inc. waiting times, time in ED, ambulance turnaround):**

27.2.1 The chart below shows the number of patients being seen and discharged within 4 hours at ED at the Royal Wolverhampton Trust, Sandwell and West Bromwich Hospitals NHS Trust, Heart of England NHS Trust and University Hospitals Birmingham from 1st January 2013 to 16th March 2013. Although RWT does well to try and meet this target, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to ensure that patients are seen and discharged within a 4 hour period.



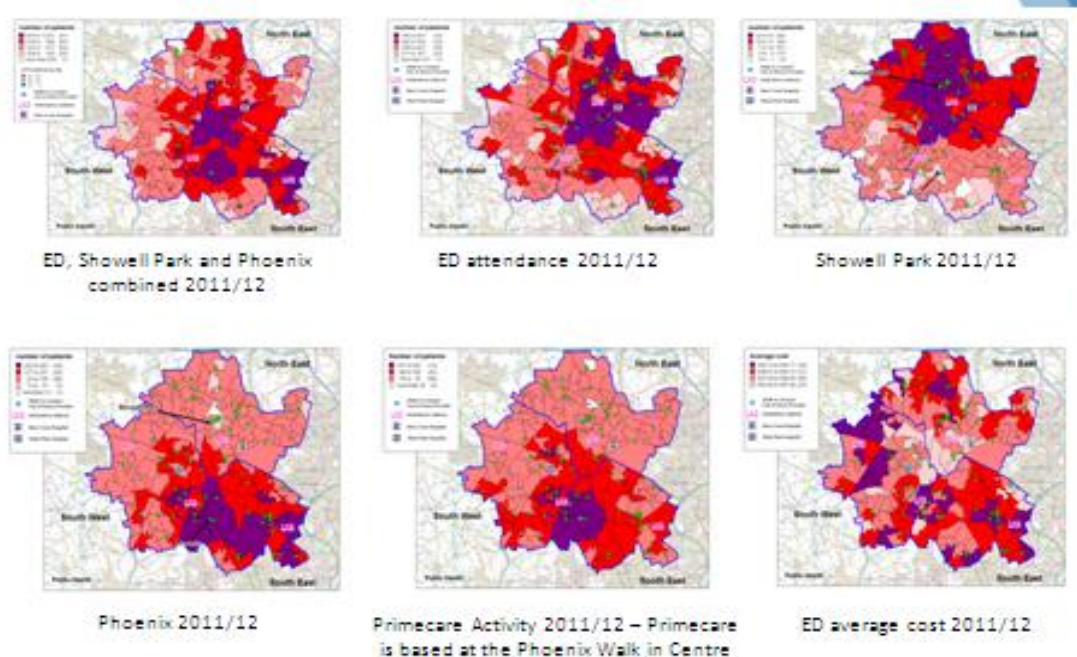
27.3 **Confusion and duplication across the system (too many access points);**

27.3.1 The chart below shows the Activity vs Proximity to services for the Emergency Portals across the city. The activity in the deepest 'purple' is where is the most concentrated activity is for that portal. There is significant duplication in the following maps:

- Maps for ED and Showell Park – patients are using the walk in centre at Showell Park and also the ED department
- Maps for the walk in centre at the Phoenix Centre and Primecare – both services are based from the same building.

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Activity vs Proximity to Services



27.3.2 In addition to the duplication of services from patients living in the same areas, the opening hours of the services are different:

- Pharmacies – variable but mostly 9am to 5.30/6pm (Mon to Sat);
- GP practices – variable but mostly 8am to 6.30pm with some afternoon closures Wed/Thurs;
- Walk in Centre - Showell Park - 8am to 8pm, 7 days per week
- Walk in Centre – Phoenix – Mon to Friday 10am to 7pm and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays;
- Ambulance Service – 24/7
- Out of hours service – 6.30-pm to 8am Mon- Friday and all day at the weekend
- ED – 24/7.

27.4 Patient's health seeking between services (using several services in one episode).

27.4.1 Further to analysis of the walk in centre activity it appears that there are a number of patients who are using the walk in centres for their primary care requirements rather than using their own GP.

27.4.2 In total there were 1591 attendances in 2011 and 1847 in 2012 at the Phoenix Centre and Showell Park which also had an ED attendance within 1 day. Some of this activity will be for conditions that have worsened however this does suggest that some patients are bouncing between services for the same condition.

27.4.3 Very few patients attend all three services within a 24 hour period. There were only 19 attendances over an 18 month period who had attended all three centres in 1 day.

27.5 Too many people getting the right care , but not necessarily in the right part of the system;

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27.5.1 The analysis also highlighted that activity is localised around the physical location of the Urgent Care Portal. When looking at the usage of the centres by patient based on their registered GP practice, it is clear that the proximity of the service to a patients home or GP practice has a significant impact on their use i.e. the closer they are based to the walk in centre, the more significant their usage. This might not always be appropriate as much of this activity could be resolved through self-care, through discussions with a Pharmacist or through visiting their own GP.

27.6 **GP access is variable (our patients are saying that they cannot get a GP appointment);**

27.6.1 GP access is difficult to measure and there are no routine ways of understanding our GP availability through data systems. However we have done much work with our patients to understand the barriers to our existing services and they say:

- GP appointments are not always available when patients have an urgent need (our patients say that they are using the walk in centres and ED because they cannot get an appointment at their own GP);
- There is significant variability in patient experience;
- Patients want to see their own GP but cannot always get an appointment when it is urgent.

27.7 **Services are stretched due to increased activity and increased complexity;**

27.7.1 GP practices, both walk in centres, ED and the ambulance service have all seen increased activity or increases in the complexity of patients arriving at services. The out of hours service is the exception, having seen **a reduction** in activity.

27.8 **Increasing costs in the system - funding is a challenge, there is no new money;**

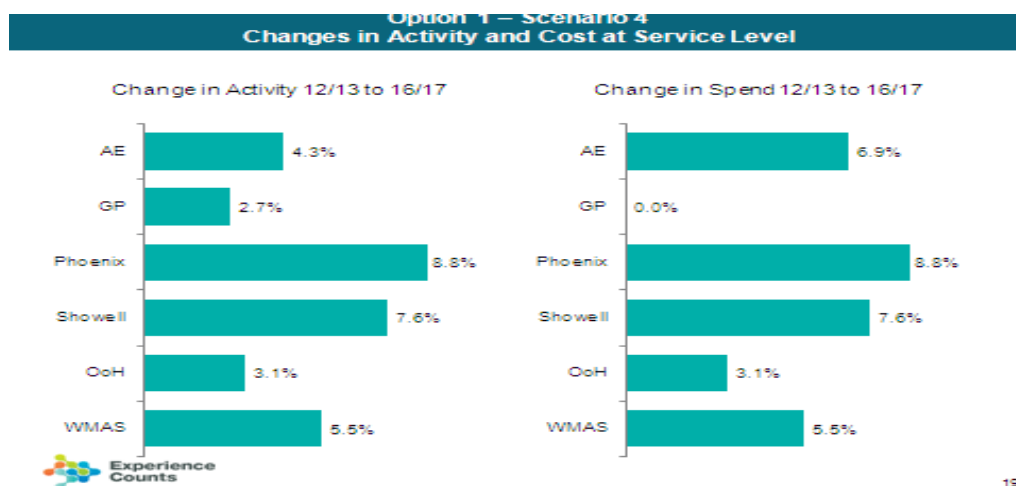
27.8.1 It is no secret that funding is a challenge in the public sector and will continue to be so over the next few years. To ensure that services are sustainable, Clinical Commissioning Groups must ensure that savings are made and that a continuous cycle of improvement is undertaken to improve quality for patients.

27.8.2 The chart below shows the activity and finance changes expected from 2012/13 to 2016/17 if 'no change' is made

27.8.3 The scenario relates to a number of potential changes that could impact activity levels over the next few years. Scenario 4 includes the potential for RWT to achieve Hyper Acute Stroke Unit status and the potential for Mid-Staffs to be downgraded to an MIU, both of which would significantly change the activity levels across the system.

27.8.4 Activity and finance usually move inline for services that are on a block contract as the activity levels have a financial cap. Walk in Centre (primary care) activity appears to increase at the fastest rate however have only a 'like for like' increase in cost. The most significant change is the ED activity and finance changes. The ED was predicted to see an increase of 4.3% over the 4 year period however the associated cost of this activity increases at a far greater rate (6.9%). It must be noted that the activity for 2012/13 was already an increase of 5.19% more than 2011/12.

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27.9 An uncoordinated approach to Urgent Care (Urgent Care is a system);

- 27.9.1 The existing services are commissioned individually and therefore one service might not compliment another. For example, the existing out of hours service has been commissioned in isolation of the wider urgent and emergency care services. As a result patients are confused about where the service is, if they can 'walk in' or the hours of opening.

Urgent & Emergency Care is a System

Understanding inter-dependencies of care settings and the impact of changes in one service affecting another.

Urgent Care begins in Primary Care with access to general practice key in supporting patient's urgent care needs.

System Gearing

95% of Urgent care is accessed in Primary care with 5% in Secondary care



Courtesy Dr Jay Beejee Consultant University Hospitals of Leicester



- 27.9.2 'As a result of "system gearing" small changes in primary care, which includes general practice, can give rise to a much greater effect on the activity in hospitals (secondary care).

- 27.9.3 General practice provides the majority of urgent care and small changes to improve overall access and a consistent approach to urgent care requests, especially to older people, is likely to have a significant effect both on ED attendance and hospital admissions.

- 27.9.4 Improved access to timely integrated health and social care services in the community is also likely to have a significant impact on hospital admissions, length of stay, discharge and re-admission rates.' (RCGP, 2011).

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27.10 Walk in Centres offer an additional layer to the system

27.10.1 'Each year around 290 million consultations take place with GPs and practice nurses, many of which are of an urgent nature. Between 1995 and 2006, the number of consultations grew at the rate of 3% each year. Over this same period, there was also an increase in the proportion of telephone consultations (up from 3% to 10% of contacts) and a decrease in the proportion of home visits (from 10% to 4% of contacts, although this is largely linked to the reorganisation of out of hours GP services)' (RCGP, 2011).

27.10.2 General Practitioners offer a service for minor health problems, illness, ailments and injuries. They look after the health of people in their local community and deal with a whole range of health problems including those requiring urgent treatment or advice. They also provide health education, offer advice on smoking and diet, run clinics, give vaccinations and carry out simple surgical operations. In addition to routine medical care and the management of long term conditions, GP's offer treatment for:

Minor cuts, bruises, burns, scalds insect bites, head injuries	Muscle and joint injuries such as strains and sprains, back pain
Coughs, colds, flu type symptoms and hay fever	High temperature
Skin complaints including rashes, minor allergic reactions, scabies, head lice, sun burn, nappy rash	Eye problems such as conjunctivitis
Ear, nose and throat problems including minor infections, sore throats, ear ache	Pregnancy testing/advice and appropriate referral
Sexual health/lifestyle advice	

27.10.3 Primary Care commissioning is the responsibility of NHS England, However CCG's will need to work closely with the local NHS England Birmingham, Solihull and the Black Country Area Team (the AT) to ensure that GP's and their practices are providing an acceptable standard of care as a minimum.

27.10.4 GP practices provide the same services (and more) than walk in centres. In Wolverhampton there are two walk in centres offering slightly differing services:

- The Phoenix Centre is nurse led seeing patients excluding under 1 years;
- Showell Park Walk in Centre is GP led with no age exclusions.

27.10.5 Both services were developed due to limitation in access to general practice and offer walk in facilities rather than the booked appointment systems that many GP services offer. If access to general practice is improved, there will be a correlating reduction in walk in centre and ED activity.

27.10.6 As described earlier in the strategy, Monitor is currently undertaking a review of the effectiveness of Walk in Centre provision and will publish its findings in the Autumn of 2013.

27.11 The current activity and finances cannot be sustained in the future – we must do things differently.

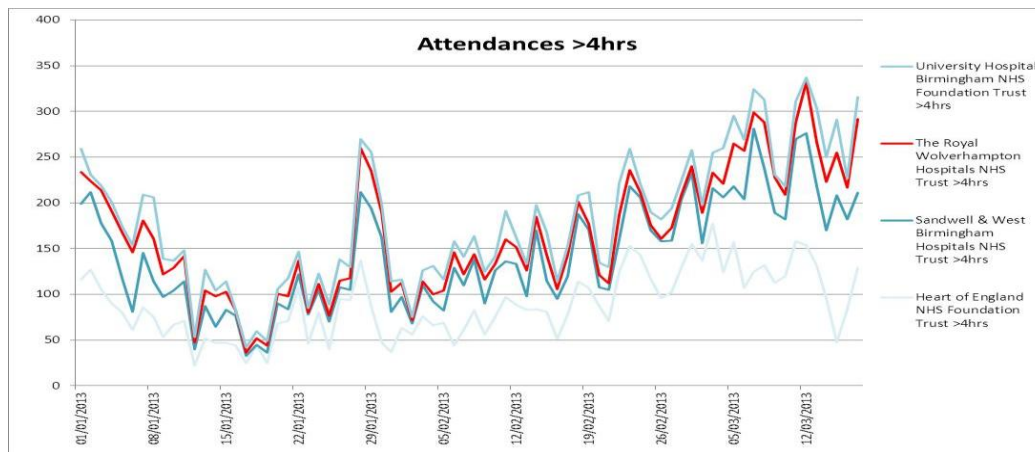
27.11.1 The existing system has seen significant pressure in recent months with patients attending the **Emergency** Department taking longer than 4 hours to be seen and

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treated. The chart below shows the number of patients who have had to wait for more than 4 hours to be seen and treated from 1st January 2013 to 16th March 2013 for four acute trusts including RWT.

27.11.2 Three of the four trusts have similar activity patterns showing the current pressures within the system.

27.11.3 In more recent weeks the Emergency Department has seen the highest number of attendances within one day ever experienced (n392).



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28. Appendix 8 – Glossary of Terms

Glossary of Terms	
A&E	Accident and Emergency
AMU	Acute Medical Unit
BCP	Black Country Partnership
BME	Black Minority Ethnic
CDU	Clinical decisions Unit
CICT	Community Integrated Care Team
CIP	Cost Improvement Programme
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder
DNAR	Do Not Attempt Resuscitation
DOH	Department of Health
EACC	Emergency Ambulatory Care Conditions
ED	Emergency Department
FSU	Frequent Service User
GP	General Practitioner
HASU	Hyper Acute Stroke Unit Status
HRG	Healthcare Resource Group
HWB	Health and Wellbeing Board
ICP	Integrated Commissioning Plan
IEP	Image Exchange Portal
LA	Local Authority
LINK	Local Improvement Network
LINKS	Local Improvement Network
LMC	Local Medical Council
MIU	Minor Injuries Unit
ONS	Office of National Statistics
OOH	Out of Hours
PAU	Paediatric Assessment Unit
PC	Primary Care
PCC	Primary Care Centre
QIPP	Quality, Innovation, Productivity, Prevention
RWT	The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
SAU	Surgical Assessment Unit
SES & SPCCG	Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group
SPAR	Single Point of Access and Referral
WCC	Wolverhampton City Council
WCCG	Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group
WiC	Walk in Centre
WMAS	West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
WUCTAS	Wolverhampton Urgent Care Triage Access Service

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29. Appendix 9 – References

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