

Feedback from Meeting of Purbeck PPG Chairs held on 23 July 2019

The Chairs of the PPGs of all the practices that make up the Purbeck Primary Care Network met with Cheryl Lewis, Purbeck Locality Project Manager, and Gill Foott, Engagement & Communications Co-ordinator (PPGs), on 23 July 2019.

Cheryl updated us on the progress that has been made to date with setting up the Purbeck Primary Care Network and then summarised the priorities that had been agreed across the Network:

1. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

As COPD is the highest cause of unplanned admission to hospital in Purbeck, the network has decided to focus in particular on patients with COPD to ensure that they have all relevant vaccinations (Flu and Pneumococcal); are actively encouraged to stop smoking; and are encouraged to attend Pulmonary Rehabilitation courses

2. Prediabetes

The network will be actively screening for prediabetes and increasing the number of referrals to the National Diabetes Prevention Programme - the network has been working with the NDPP to increase provision in Purbeck which is now available from a location in Swanage

3. Extended hours

Additional funding is now available to the network to improve access and the network has decided to provide an lunchtime surgeries from 11:00am - 3:00pm - these will rotate around the network and be open to all patients within the network (all practices within the network can now access the records of all patients registered with practices within network on SystemOne).

Cheryl then described some of the other new initiatives underway within the Purbeck Locality:

1. Preventing unnecessary hospital admissions

The community geriatrician based in Purbeck is working with the District Nurses and the Practice Nurses working in Purbeck, as well as the Matron at Swanage Community Hospital, to develop services to prevent hospital admission and enable patients to stay at home. For example, District nurses had now been trained to administer IV antibiotics and IV fluids at home - previously, all patients requiring such treatments would have required hospital admission

2. The Purbeck Way

This initiative is being led by the District Nurses working within the Purbeck locality and ensures that all patients have a Named Nurse

3. Electric bicycles the District Nurses

The District Nurses working within the Swanage area now have electric bicycles

4. Purbeck Lindsay Leg Club

Good progress was being made by the Leg Club Working Group: weekly sessions will be held at the Parish Room on Wareham Quay, starting on Monday 2 September; equipment had been ordered and people willing to help were now being identified

5. New Dementia Service in Wareham

A new Dementia Service was being set up in Wareham, which is being led by the Admiral Nurse

6. Liquid nitrogen used to treat skin lesions

As health professionals are no longer permitted to transport liquid nitrogen in their cars, it has been proposed that a service will be provided at Wareham

7. Social Prescribing Link Worker

Funding has been made available to each primary care network to appoint a social prescribing link worker - the Purbeck Primary Care Network has decided to commission Help & Care to provide this service, as they have already being commissioned by the CCG to provide self-management coaches across Dorset and have a lot of experience in this area

8. Purbeck Be Well Website

Good progress is being made with the setting up of this new website, which is similar to The Mendip Directory - it will aim to help people find groups and support within the community to help them improve their health and wellbeing; Cheryl is hoping to recruit volunteers from local schools to help keep the website updated.

It was agreed that the Purbeck PPG Chairs would meet on a regular basis and that they would also in future be invited to attend meetings of the Purbeck Locality Partnership Group.

Margaret Broadhurst
Chair
Swanage Medical Practice PPG
August 2019