



5 June 2023

Dear colleague

The **Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board (ICB)** is an NHS organisation responsible for planning for the health needs of the population and managing the NHS budget.

You might have heard that the ICB has entered into a 'deal' with the **Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership** for the partnership to take the lead on three priority areas:

- Helping avoid unnecessary hospital admissions and improving hospital discharge
- Children and young people's mental health
- Tackling obesity

We're now busy working on plans to make a difference. The team taking this forward is called the **Joint Leadership Team (JLT)**, a body made up of the very senior leaders from community and mental health services, the hospital, primary care, the city council and the integrated care board (or ICB). The JLT is accountable to the Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership.

We're starting some new work in Bletchley you might find interesting

In February, the Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership decided that it would be good to do some additional work to respond to 'The Fuller Stocktake of Primary Care', a national report by Dr Claire Fuller, which recommends local areas develop work to:

- Provide a more proactive, personalised care and support to people through a multi-disciplinary team approach.
- Help people stay well for longer as part of a stronger focus on prevention of ill health.

The Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership agreed that the best way to approach this work would be to focus on a smaller area initially and test out new ways of working and then apply them elsewhere in Milton Keynes if we are sure they are having a positive impact. This might mean:

- Forming new multi-disciplinary teams or networks.
- Pooling our resources and looking at joint roles.

- Simplifying the range of different roles we have set up.
- Investing in the local voluntary and community sector.
- Agreeing better ways of working together that tackle the root causes of issues.

The Joint Leadership Team (JLT) has identified that Bletchley would be a good area to focus on initially. This is because of the high levels of need in the area, the interesting mix of organisations and the number of residents living there. This is subject to formal agreement by Milton Keynes Health and Care Partnership next month.

Meanwhile, we will be doing 10-12 weeks of background work to prepare. During this time we will be doing a range of things, including:

- Completing a comprehensive workforce audit of Bletchley.
- Looking at options for multi-disciplinary teams in the area.
- Working out if we can use data to identify and better support specific groups.
- Developing a plan to increase use of local facilities and services.
- Finding out if the voluntary sector can play a greater role in health and care.
- Thinking about the best way to organise a steering group to oversee the work.

We want to take an inclusive approach to this work, but inevitably there will be a stronger focus on schools, children's services, primary care including pharmacies, the voluntary and community sector, adult social care, community and mental health, residential and nursing care and housing.

I have agreed to lead this work and bring together colleagues from a number of organisations to help me. At the end of the twelve weeks we will produce a report setting out our findings. After that I hope we will be able to start our work. We estimate this will last for up to 18 months.

Another part of the 'The Fuller Stocktake' recommendations was to streamline access to care and advice for people who get ill but do not use health and care services regularly. I'm pleased to say that this important work is being led by local GP Dr Jon Walter who I will be working closely with.

If you would like to know anything about this work or get involved directly, then please do make contact. You can email Rebecca Green at **rebecca.green@nhs.net**

Please do share this letter with any colleagues you think might find it useful to hear about the Bletchley Pathfinder.

Kind regards



Michael Bracey
Chief Executive, Milton Keynes City Council