

Media release

4 August 2017

Public invited to Benjamin Court Unit consultation drop-in event

The public of North Norfolk and rural Broadland are being offered the opportunity to discuss the proposed changes to Benjamin Court Unit (BCU) near Cromer with local clinicians and NHS managers. They will also be invited to share their views as part of a consultation taking place over the summer. The consultation demonstrates a vision of care for patients of North Norfolk and rural Broadland and suggests options for patient facilities and the development of the new Supported Care Service. The options were developed by a steering group made up of local patients, doctors/nurses and managers.

The event, which takes place between **12pm – 8pm** at the Cromer Community Centre, on **Tuesday 29th August**, will give members of the public an opportunity to hear about the proposed plans, ask questions and let the CCG hear their thoughts.

A New and Vibrant Future for Benjamin Court Healthcare Unit - A Resource for Everyone in North Norfolk and rural Broadland proposes changes which will, if adopted, provide a health and community support hub comprising different types of beds and non-bed based NHS and voluntary sector services. A centre where people are given safe, high quality, person centred care, whatever the focus. This could include:

- ✓ supporting patients and their family and carers to have the most comfortable and dignified end of life care
- ✓ helping people achieve the best quality of life
- ✓ helping people to remain living independently
- ✓ an advice and support hub that brings together the best of our local healthcare and wellbeing organisations under one roof

GP Dr Anoop Dhesi, chair of North Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group and partner at Staithe Surgery Stalham, said; “The views of local people are really important to us and we want as many people involved as possible to shape the service. The consultation document was prepared with the input from our Community Engagement Panel and our steering group so we are really keen to hear people’s views on these proposals.”

The consultation is being led by NHS North Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS North Norfolk CCG). It is about deciding on the services which can be delivered at the units providing good practice with patients’ needs at the heart of the decision and the best use of finite NHS resources.

Antek Lejk, Chief Officer for North Norfolk CCG added: “We understand that no one likes change but we firmly believe that the options in the consultation document represent a real opportunity for us to improve care and we look forward to hearing the publics’ thoughts at the event. Essentially we need to change the way the health system works and the CCG is committed to helping people stay out of hospital and continue living independently at home.”

The consultation document has now been published and is available on the CCG’s [website](#) as well as details for other routes of feeding back.