

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THE NHS DESIGN LOCAL HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES?

Why are we re-designing the services?

In April 2015 Northumberland was selected as what is known as a “Vanguard” site for the delivery of a Primary and Acute Care system (PACS) and a potential Accountable Care Organisation (ACO). Working under the banner of ‘one system, one team, one you’ PACS will break down barriers between primary, community, hospital, mental health and social care to create a more streamlined experience for patients and avoid duplication. The ACO will help to create a culture to assist this integration.

How can I help?

The joint leads of the Vanguard programme, NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, together with our partners, are very keen for local people to be involved in the design of regional healthcare and have set up the Northumberland Vanguard Co-Design Forum to do just that. We are currently seeking volunteers to become part of this exciting opportunity to help shape the health services of the future. The broad outline of the forum is attached and we are looking for people that are interested in local health and care issues to become Locality Vanguard Ambassadors.

What is the Core Panel?

While the locality ambassadors will only attend their relevant locality meetings, members of the core panel will attend every meeting. Made up of senior members of the Northumberland health and wellbeing economy, their primary roles are to provide co-design input to locality models and, equally importantly, to ensure equity of access and quality across all localities.

What will I do exactly?

The CCG already has an extensive network of patient participation events and a healthy communications system with Northumberland patients. The Vanguard programme however wants to further improve this and ensure that local people feel empowered to fully contribute to the design of future health and care services. We are looking for 3 locality ambassadors in each locality who, between them, can speak for their particular area (for example in the North, perhaps one each from Alnwick, Berwick and Morpeth). Ideally ambassadors would develop a network across GP practice Patient Participation Groups in their local area and be able to express the collective views and feedback on developments and progress. The ultimate aim is to ensure all Northumberland patients feel involved at every stage of the Vanguard work.

Locality ambassadors would be asked to attend their respective locality meetings, two of which are planned for each locality in 2016. The first will look at the early findings of the Vanguard’s early public engagement and consider both the implications for the design of a future health and care system and the long term health outcomes to be achieved. The second (later in the year) will actually evaluate the proposed system. Ambassadors will be provided background information ahead of each meeting and will have a point of contact for initial questions.

Travelling expenses will be payable.



How do I apply?

If you think you may be interested in taking up one of the ambassador roles please email faye.smeaton@nhs.net or call 01670 335178 by 18 April 2016.

All volunteers are welcome but only 3 can take up the posts, so if you wish to briefly outline your suitability for the role then please do so. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I look forward to working with successful volunteers in the future.

Stephen Young

CCG Strategic Head of Corporate Affairs and

Vanguard Programme Engagement Lead

