

Shaping healthcare services in Corby





What's happening to the NHS near me?

From April 2013, the NHS is changing so that local doctors and other medical professionals and patients can have a much stronger say in how the NHS spends its money. Local General Practitioners (GPs) have formed Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) which will be the local organisations responsible for spending the majority of the local health budget on services from hospitals and community nurses to operations and prescriptions.

These changes are based on the idea that patients will enjoy better healthcare if decisions that affect local people can be made by local clinicians and patients. It also means that local patients, carers and groups are able to directly contribute to improving the services that affect them.

The CCG in Corby is NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group. It represents all GP surgeries in Corby and will be responsible for providing services to the 70,000 patients registered with a Corby GP. Doctors and other partners from Corby are already working together to ensure you receive the best healthcare services possible. NHS Corby CCG is responsible for spending £70 million but needs to be innovative and effective if it is going to produce better services whilst reducing the increasing cost of healthcare due to our ageing and growing population. This is an ongoing challenge during times of austerity.

Our healthcare priorities for Corby

- To provide more services and care closer to home so patients don't need to go to hospital
- To make sure we plan services that are the best quality they can be by using the latest medical thinking and patient views
- To join up work with local partners in Corby so we respond quickly to get new services up and running by having less bureaucracy and red tape
- To talk to our patients about overall good health and healthy lifestyles so that people in Corby live longer and healthier lives



What we're working on

Bringing and keeping care closer to home

The new Urgent Care Centre at Willowbrook is due to open in late 2012 and is central to our vision for how services will be provided closer to home. The new centre will offer:

- A GP Walk In Centre (currently based at Lakeside Plus)
- A Minor Injury Unit and x-ray (currently based at the Nuffield Diagnostic Centre) with an observation area so GPs and other clinicians can monitor patients while carrying out a range of diagnostic tests
- A community-based ultrasound service and extended opening hours for the community-based x-ray service

All of this means that Corby patients have a local service for medical problems or illnesses that need urgent attention but aren't serious enough to need a trip to Accident and Emergency.

In addition NHS Corby CCG is launching a campaign to provide information for new parents on a variety of common childhood illnesses and how to get support and advice.

Providing high quality services

Our vision is that patients should receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time. Some of the things we plan to introduce to support this are:

- Training more GPs to manage more patients with heart conditions in the community rather than hospital
- Providing more support to home visit teams like family nurses and health visitors
- Telephoning patients to check how they are doing after surgery or specific treatments
- Offering patients the option to visit specialist local doctors to deal with particular conditions, such as our community based Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms Service

Support for mental health and wellbeing

We have begun a review of local mental health and wellbeing services so that we can help more patients. We are hoping to introduce the following improvements:

- More support for patients who have personal health budgets so they can make the best choices about their healthcare
- Setting up a mental health forum which has membership from both statutory, voluntary sector and patient organisations so we have a joined up approach to dealing with mental health issues in Corby
- We are also looking at redesigning specialist learning disability services and increasing supported accommodation options for people with learning disabilities

Healthier Together

NHS Corby CCG and its partners across the region share a view that hospital care can be improved by working together more effectively. Healthier Together is a partnership project that involves the five district general hospitals (across Northamptonshire, Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton) working with NHS Corby CCG and other health and social care organisations to look at how some services can be improved for the medium and long term.

Changes that are so important need feedback and ideas from the people who use the hospitals the most, the patients. So, whether its by providing more specialists and experts in specific areas, or taking services out of the hospital and putting them into communities, or, reducing the administration of getting patients into or out of hospital, lots of work is taking place to talk to local people.

For more information about the project, please visit healthiertogether.northamptonshire.nhs.uk



Improving lifestyles in Corby

Corby is a unique town in many ways with its green open spaces and famous community spirit. However it also has its issues and health is one of them. Unfortunately, the health of people in Corby is generally worse than the England average, and Corby GPs and other local healthcare professionals are leading the way to change this.

Patients can and should expect to talk to their doctors and other health professionals about their overall health and lifestyle - after all, they are the people who want you to keep well for the long term and will know your health the best.

For Example, GPs and nurses will tell you about small lifestyle changes that can make a massive difference to lower the risk of serious conditions like cancer, heart disease and stroke.

NHS Corby CCG is therefore working with interested groups in Corby on issues such as:

- Detecting cancer early and encouraging patients to take part in screening
- Lifestyle improvements to prevent heart disease and stroke

How can I get involved?

We know how important the NHS and its services are to everyone, so we want to make sure that local people and organisations are involved every step of the way. We will keep you up-to-date with everything that is going on, and we want to hear your views.

There are lots of different ways to join in shaping future healthcare in Corby, here are a few:

Patient Participation Groups (PPGs)

One of the best ways to have your say about local health services is to join your GP surgery's PPG. These groups meet regularly, and as well as influencing what happens within your own practice, your views on Corby-wide issues can also be fed up to the NHS Corby CCG Governing Board. This will ensure that your views are considered before making decisions on behalf of your local area.

Become a member

If you would like to be involved and have your say or attend meetings at your local surgery, why not sign up to be a member of Pulse, our patient membership scheme. Sign up online at www.corbyhealthcare.com and you can take part in surveys, receive updates and invitations to local initiatives. This is also a perfect way to find out more about big developments, for example, to join the patient group for the new Urgent Care Centre.

Corby Older People's Health Forum

The local older people's forum always welcomes new members. The group meets regularly and tackles the interests of local older residents (generally the over 50s). Please visit www.corbyhealthcare.com or call **01536 400600** to find out when the next gathering is taking place.

Organisations

If you work or volunteer for a local organisation, you can get involved through the local Strategic Partnership Group, Mental Health Forum or Health and Wellbeing strategic group.