

The Purpose of the Partners in Care group is to stimulate and coordinate activities and services that support self care and self management for people with long term conditions. This is a key building block for the Worcestershire Health and Social Care Economy in addressing the many challenges in achieving the Wanless 'Fully Engaged Scenario'.

The focus of the group will be on promoting an integrated, coordinated and consistent approach to the development of sustainable self care support services for people with long term conditions within the NHS Worcestershire Health and Social Care Economy which are proactive and pre-emptive. This supports the PCT's strategic and operational plans, which will facilitate effective joined up commissioning.

Self Care is described in the DH publication (Apr 2009) and (Nov 2009) as

“an integral part of daily life and is all about individuals taking responsibility for their own health and well-being with support from the people involved in their care. Self care includes the actions people take for themselves every day in order to stay fit and maintain good physical and mental health, meet their social and psychological needs, prevent illness or accidents, and care more effectively for minor ailments and long term conditions”.

Recent DH policy *guide for commissioners* (Jan 2009) emphasises that

Commissioners need to work with providers to ensure that:

- they are offering care planning as part of the service, care pathway and/or local models of care for people with long term conditions; and
- services to support self care and structured patient education are incorporated into local pathways as routine, and that they specifically link to care planning.

The DH information tool describes the vision for personalised LTC services and provides practical suggestions for commissioners to help them achieve that vision.

The Partners in Care Group will use the four DH documents mentioned above and the document produced at the WIPP Self Care Conference – Commissioning Self Care for Life (Oct 2007) to provide a benchmark when identifying and assessing projects and programmes for possible funding and development.

- Promote a partnership and shared decision making approach between health professionals and people with long term conditions through embedding the Common Core Principles to Support Self Care (DH, 2008).
- Stimulate the market for self care support services in Worcestershire

- Facilitate the introduction of Personalised Care/Health Plans, Year of Care and the use of Information Prescriptions
- Support the development of a local Your Health, Your Way with appropriate links to Putting People First, Mind the Gap and Choosing Health
- Expand the range of Self Management Education (SME) programmes available in Worcestershire
- Undertake an economic appraisal of the investment in self care and identify outcomes using the



Director of Clinical Development and Lead Executive Nurse (Chair)
 Self Care Programmes Manager (Deputy Chair)
 Non Executive Director
 Representative from Public Health
 Representative from Primary and Community Care Commissioning
 Representative from PBC Commissioners
 Representative from Communications and Community Engagement Team
 Representative from IT
 Representative from Provider Services
 Representative from Acute Trust
 Representative from Mental Health Trust
 PPI Patient sub committee member
 Representative from Information Governance
 Representative from Social Care



Initially bi monthly, with review after one year



The group is accountable to the Long Term Conditions Sub Committee/Clinical Senate.