



Bradford VCS Alliance – Briefing Note

Policy Background

The NHS Policy Document 'Five Year Forward View' (October 2014) sets out a clear goal that "*the NHS will take decisive steps to break down the barriers in how care is provided between family doctors and hospitals, between physical and mental health, between health and social care*". This document details different integrated care models including the establishment of Accountable Care Systems (ACS).

Bradford CCGs have worked with their delivery and commissioning partners – Bradford Council, Bradford District Hospital Trusts, Bradford District Care Trust (BDCT), GP Alliance (Bradford Care Alliance) and the VCS to form a Provider Alliance as a step towards the commissioning and establishment of an Accountable Care System.

Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven (AWC) CCG is mirroring this work across AWC and working with partners including Yordale Federation, Airedale NHS Foundation Trust, Bradford District Care Trust, Bradford and North Yorks Councils and the VCS.

The process of developing the two ACS' within Bradford District and Craven has also been directed through the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) as authorised by NHS Planning Guidance for 2016/17 – 2020/21.

The Bradford and AWC's STP process began in January 2016 and has included work between the CCGs and members of the Bradford Provider Alliance (BPA) to identify how the overall health and wellbeing of the population and standards of care can be improved within increasing financial constraints.

Bradford Provider Alliance (BPA)

The BPA is responsible for delivering the local Accountable Care System. It consists of Bradford Council, Bradford District Hospital Trusts, BDCT, Bradford Care Alliance and the VCS. There is a similar structure in AWC as outlined above.

The CCGs will eventually commission one system of care through a single outcomes based contract with the BPA. This will focus on improving the whole population's health and well-being and will be financially and clinically sustainable.

All health and social care contracts in Bradford District will be with the BPA (however this is not 100% agreed yet as in Bradford and AWC there is some discussion about scope – what is in and what is out). Generally though this change means that the VCS must be part of the Provider Alliance in order to influence and obtain health and social care funding.

The VCS had to create a legal entity to represent the sector before it could become part of the alliance. This was done with financial support from the CCGs.

Bradford VCS Alliance Ltd

The Bradford District Assembly via the Assembly Steering Group (ASG) were approached by the CCG asking them to develop a body that would allow the VCS to join the Bradford Provider Alliance. The Assembly was asked to do this because they are seen as the most representative body for the local VCS. Bradford District Assembly (which represents the whole district including AWC) has established a number of forums made up of VCS groups and organisations. Each forum has an elected chair/co-chairs representing the forum and its members on the Assembly Steering Group (ASG). Due to its development the Bradford VCS Alliance Shadow Board and later full Board will reflect the full range of VCS forums in its aim of representing the sector in the fullest way possible.

ASG created the ACO Task and Finish Group (TFG) to lead on the work. Very soon it was clear that in order to be able to lead on collaboration discussions with the CCG and BPA a Shadow Board structure was needed and the TFG became the Shadow Board so that the work could progress. The Shadow Board is now a full member of the Integrated Management Board of the BPA.

The Shadow Board is in the process of creating the governance structures and processes required for the full Board. This has included seeking legal advice and consultancy support to ensure the best model for the new entity was adopted.

Once the model was agreed a company limited by guarantee was formed and called Bradford VCS Alliance Limited. Over the coming months we will seek to amend this to become a CIC.

The Shadow Board is also currently tasked with (in conjunction with legal support) reviewing and agreeing key BPA documents such as the Memorandum of Understanding and Alliance Agreement which will set out the values, principles, terms and obligations of partners in the BPA and will provide an overarching arrangement governing the alliance.

The Shadow Board – Current Membership

- Helen Speight (Chair) – Co-Chair Health and Wellbeing Forum
- David Wilford – Co-Chair RAP Forum
- Jen White – Chair Environment Forum
- Sam Keighley – Co-Chair Health and Wellbeing Forum
- Javed Khan – ASG
- Peter Horner – Young Lives Forum
- Anthony Clipsom – Infrastructure Support Organisations Rep, ASG
- Vicki Beere – AWC Lead for Accountable Care

The Shadow Board will in time develop into the full Board to ensure continuity of the work. This will occur over the next 12 months and will be expanded using elections and co-options. After 12 months there will be elections for one third of the Board members as per the constitution.

Further Reading

NHS 5 Year Forward View (2014) – full and easy read versions available at:
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/futurenhs/>

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Sustainability and Transformation Plan:
<http://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Final-draft-submission-plan.pdf>

For an overview of Accountable Care Systems visit:
<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/topics/integrated-care/accountable-care-organisations-explained>

For more information about Bradford District's Accountable Care System and the BVCSA visit the BVCSA website: www.bradfordvcsalliance.org.uk