

# Transforming Community Services: Questions & Answers

## What is 'Transforming Community Services'?

Transforming Community Services is the name given to the project that will see the creation of a new NHS trust in Worcestershire. This new trust will provide the vast majority of the services currently managed by Worcestershire Primary Care Trust's Provider Arm, as well as all those currently provided by Worcestershire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

## How will this impact upon services?

Transforming Community Services concerns organisational change, rather than change to services themselves, so patients and service users will not see any immediate change. However, it is felt that combining the services in a new Trust will make it easier for patients to access the healthcare services they need.

## What about the remaining Primary Care Trust services?

A small range of services such as breast screening and some of the specialist nursing services (COPD Service, Diabetic Service, Heart Failure Service, TB Nursing Service and Wyre Forest Rheumatology Service) will transfer to Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, as will management of the Wyre Forest GP Community Unit at Kidderminster Hospital. In addition, management of the staff involved in the provision of elective surgery at Tenbury and Evesham community hospitals will also transfer to the Acute Trust.

NHS Worcestershire, which is the Commissioning Arm of Worcestershire Primary Care Trust, will continue to have overall responsibility for healthcare in the county, and will work closely with local GPs to assist in the establishment of the GP consortia who will be taking responsibility for commissioning local health services under new Government plans for the NHS.

## When will this work take place?

The target is for the new Trust to be created

on 1 April 2011 but this will depend upon the appointment of a Chair and Chief Executive for the new Trust. These posts have been advertised and a final decision on timescale will be taken in early February.

## What's happened so far?

A Project Team and a Project Steering Group have been established to take forward the work. The participants include an independent Chair, staff, patients/ service users, carers and senior managers from Worcestershire Primary Care Trust, Worcestershire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust and Worcestershire County Council.

## Who is affected?

The transition involves all the staff currently employed in Worcestershire Primary Care Trust's Provider Arm and by Worcestershire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust. This includes members of staff who are seconded to Worcestershire County Council, as well as staff seconded from Worcestershire County Council to either trust.

## Do I get a say in this?

Whilst the change itself has been agreed we are committed to ensuring users of the services affected and carers have a say. We will be holding a number of events in February and March across the county and we would like you to participate.

### These events are:

**Wednesday 9th February:** 10am to 12noon, Kidderminster Town Hall

**Thursday 17th March:** 6pm to 8pm, Evesham Hospital: Training and Development Centre

**Thursday 24th March:** 1.30pm to 3.30pm, Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester.

To book a place at one of these events email [communications@worcestershire.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@worcestershire.nhs.uk) or for any more information please contact **01905 681609**.