

<b>1<sup>st</sup> October 2015</b>	<b>ITEM: 9</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>	
<b>South Essex Emergency Doctors Service (SEEDS) update</b>	
<b>Report of:</b> Rahul Chaudhari, Head of Primary Care Strategy, Thurrock CCG	
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Mandy Ansell, Acting (interim) Accountable Officer, Thurrock CCG	
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Mandy Ansell, Acting (interim) Accountable Officer, Thurrock CCG	
<b>This report is Public</b>	

## **Executive Summary**

This paper aims to appraise the Health and Wellbeing board on the changes to the Out of hours (OOH) primary care emergency service and the future arrangements.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

#### **1.1 The Board is asked to note the contents of the report**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

- 2.1 Primary care practices as part of their contract are mandated to provide OOH GP cover. IC 24 service was commissioned by the CCG to provide OOH services on behalf of those practices that Opted out of arranging their own cover. Practices which Opted in to arrange their own cover commissioned SEEDS to provide this service.

Currently there are 14 practices in Thurrock that have opted in with SEEDS. SEEDS on 5<sup>th</sup> August have informed that they would close on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015. As part of the contractual requirement and to maintain continuity of service NHS Thurrock CCG along with NHS England met with the SEEDS provider informing them to continue with service provision for a period of 3 months (30<sup>th</sup> November 2015). This will allow the CCG to work with the affected practices to develop a long term solution.

Thurrock CCG along with Basildon and Brentwood CCG and NHS England will also be working with SEEDS to support the short term delivery of services and on the exit strategy to ensure smooth transition of service provision to an alternate provider.

Thurrock CCG on 14<sup>th</sup> August has written to the 14 SEEDS practices advising them of the next steps and the options available to them going forward. Should the practices choose the CCG recommended option and join the IC24 service then the CCG is prepared to absorb the additional cost of the new provider.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

- 3.1 To maintain continuity of OOH service provided by SEEDS the two south west Essex CCGs and NHS England will be providing short term additional funds for a period of 3 months whilst we make a long term arrangement.

CCG will be working with SEEDS to ensure smooth transition of service provision to an alternate provider.

CCG will support the 14 Opted in SEEDS practices to make alternate OOH service provision from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2015.

### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

N/A

### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 It is envisaged that the above approach will not have an adverse impact on the current service provision

### **7. Implications**

#### **7.1 Financial**

No financial implications have been identified.

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**  
**Management Accountant**

#### **7.2 Legal**

The report is for noting only. Any further changes including possible TUPE transfer of staff (as noted in the report) will need direct involvement and advice from HR and legal.

Implications verified by: **Chris Pickering**  
**Principal Solicitor**

### 7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Out of hours provision supports community provision supporting all protected characteristics. Any future change to provision will be informed by an equality impact assessment.

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Community Development and Equalities  
Manager**

### 7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

It is expected that the current staff employed by SEEDS will be Tupe'd over to the new provider

### 8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- N/A

### 9. **Appendices to the report** None

#### **Report Author:**

Rahul Chaudhari  
Head of Primary Care Strategy  
NHS Thurrock CCG