

Brampton and District 50+ Forum

Report of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 November 2016 in Brampton Community Centre. The meeting took place after lunch in the community café; 30 people attended the meeting.

After welcoming the large number of members, Ann Oswin gave a summary of the key points in the document *The Future of Healthcare in West, North & East Cumbria*. This public consultation document outlines future options for the direction of health and social care in the county prior to changes being implemented next year. We were fortunate to each be given a copy of the document. (Thanks to Margaret and Harry Simpson for bringing these along.) The document is available online to view or download:

<http://www.wnecumbria.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/NHS-Cumbria-doc-LoRes.pdf>

Change to healthcare provision is inevitable because rising demands cannot be met by the resources available. The main challenges to be met are:

- The desire for people to become more involved in their own care.
- The need for hospitals to work more closely with GPs and for the NHS to work more closely with social care.
- The need for better access to advances in treatments and technologies to predict, diagnose and treat disease.

We looked at the proposed options for: community hospital and inpatient beds; emergency and acute care; stroke services.

At the end of the consultation document is a consultation questionnaire allowing members of the public to give their opinions on the various options proposed and / or suggest alternatives of their own. Members were encouraged to complete and return the questionnaire. The deadline is 19th December 2016.

The aim of the second part of the meeting was to increase members' awareness of the different activities available to older people locally. Several Forum members who each belong to different local organisations gave a brief summary of what was involved, when, where and how often they meet, and the cost. A summary sheet of the information was available to take away.

A version, with additional entries and mistakes corrected, is on our website:

http://50plusforum.bramptoncumbria.uk/docs/2016Nov_BramptonGroupsforOlderPeople.pdf

The community centre Christmas Lunch is on Monday 19th December at 12:30pm. The cost is £15 per person; booking is essential. The menu is available on our website: http://50plusforum.bramptoncumbria.uk/docs/2016_ChristmasMenu.jpg

The meeting then moved into the café for tea and biscuits.

The next Forum meeting will now be held on Tuesday 21 March 2017 and not in February as previously advertised.