

Dear stakeholder,

I wanted to advise you that the Governing Body of the NHS North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (NEECCG) has decided to issue 12 months' notice on a contract that provides community services across Colchester and Tendring.

The seven-year Care Closer to Home contract was awarded to Anglian Community Enterprise (ACE) in 2015 to provide services such as community nursing, falls prevention, audiology, cardiology and ophthalmology across the two boroughs.

It aimed to focus on the needs of patients and to offer treatment in, or near to, their homes instead of adding pressure to existing sites such as hospitals.

The decision means NEECCG and its partners can procure a contract that will support the delivery of more joined up care between local primary care, social care and community services and acute hospital care. I believe this will provide a more sustainable service for the future and link in closely with our voluntary sector partners and local councils in Colchester and Tendring.

Over the past five years, staff at ACE have worked tirelessly to ensure local people and patients receive the care and treatment they need closer to their homes. I remain extremely grateful to them for all of their hard work and we would like to assure their excellent staff that there will be a positive future for them locally.

NEECCG will continue to work closely with ACE to ensure there is a smooth transition to the new arrangements and we thank them for their professionalism. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [simon.morgan4@nhs.net](mailto:simon.morgan4@nhs.net) or myself.

Stay safe,

Ed.