Improving Planned Care

Communications and engagement update for Programme Board

17 March 2020

Website accessibility regulations

As mentioned in the last update for Programme Board, the introduction of new regulations on the accessibility of public sector websites means that organisations like ours have a legal duty to make sure their websites meet accessibility requirements by 23 September this year.

The aim of the legislation is to help make sure online public services are accessible to all users, including people with disabilities.

On 28 February, we attended a working group with Bradford Talking Media (BTM) where a team of people with different accessibility needs reviewed the Partnership’s website.

The group identified several issues - the main problem being the large amount of text on the majority of our web pages. Not surprisingly, group members also found a lot of the content too clinical and confusing.

We know that the Partnership’s website isn’t designed to be an ‘NHS Choices’ type public resource but there are many things we can do to address some of the issues highlighted by this thorough review.

We’ll be working to make several accessibility improvements to the website, including the Improving Planned Care pages, over the coming months so we can make sure we meet the required standards by September.

If you have any comments to make about the website that could feed into this accessibility work then please get in touch with Christine Hughes in the Improving Planned Care team or Ben Thompson, the Partnership’s Digital Communications Manager.