

New Head of Oxfordshire CCG

Louise Patten [has been hired](#) as Interim CEO because of her 'proven leadership approach'. What does this mean? She successfully introduced an Accountable Care Organisation in Buckinghamshire last year. The government has moved on from STPs to ACOs as a way to integrate services in a locality and Bucks and West Berks, our STP footprint partners, are in the national first wave of eight such 'organisations'.

Patten has been hired to make certain we go in the same direction. Currently the plan is to create an Accountable Care System – a decision was made without consultation. ACS's can move smoothly into fully fledged ACOs unless we fight them.

As well as pushing through the Bucks ACO, she has a blog on the [NHS England website](#) to teach others the tricks of the trade. Where did she learn them? After a career as a nurse, she became a manager, and then, according to the NHS England website:

'After a year's sabbatical doing an MBA, she worked as Director of Service Design for a commercial healthcare organisation then as CEO of the PBC group United Commissioning LLP, overseeing the transition to Aylesbury Vale CCG.

This should be enough to alert us at Keep Our NHS Public - because these cosy sounding accountable care organisations take all the local publicly accountable services out of the publicly accountable domain into a place where secret decisions and deals are the norm, and where our services are ripe for picking by the kind of commercial outfits that Louise Patten has worked for.