

Health & Wellbeing Board Briefing Note

Joint Commissioning Arrangements for Primary Care Herefordshire CCG and NHS England (West Midlands)

12 March 2015

Background

Simon Stevens, the Chief Executive of NHS England announced on 1 May 2014 that NHS England was inviting Clinical Commissioning Groups to expand their role in primary care commissioning and submit expressions of interest setting out the CCGs preference for how it would like to exercise expanded primary medical care commissioning functions. Options were to remain the same, to opt for joint commissioning arrangements and to opt for delegated responsibility – moving the primary medical budgets fully to the designated CCG.

The NHS Herefordshire CCG Governing Body opted to apply for the joint commissioning function and we received confirmation in February 2015 that the application had been successful. These joint arrangements will commence from 1 April 2015.

This will mean that the CCG will take joint responsibility with NHS England (West Midlands) for:-

- GMS (General Medical Services), PMS (Personal Medical Services) and APMS (Alternative provider medical service) contracts (including the design of PMS and APMS contracts, monitoring of contracts, taking contractual action such as issuing branch/remedial notices, and removing a contract);
- Newly designed enhanced services (“Local Enhanced Services” and “Directed Enhanced Services”);
- Decision making on whether to establish new GP practices in an area;
- Approving practice mergers; and
- Making decisions on ‘discretionary’ payment (e.g., returner/retainer schemes).

NHS Herefordshire CCG and NHS England (West Midlands) are required to establish a Joint Committee to oversee the joint commissioning functions. The key responsibility of the committee will be to carry out the functions relating to the commissioning of primary care medical services under section 83 of the NHS Act excepting those relating to the individual GP performance management which have been reserved to NHS England. Contractual responsibility for other primary care providers (Dentists, Optometrists, Community Pharmacy and Eye Care) will be retained by NHS England. Those enhanced services currently commissioned by Public Health on behalf of the Local Authority from GP practices (childhood immunisation, health checks, sexual health services etc) will remain the responsibility of the local authority.

Actions for the Health and Wellbeing Board

NHS Herefordshire CCG and NHS England (West Midlands) would like to invite representation from the Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Board to attend the Joint Committee meetings as observers, in order to further strengthen collaborative working. Provisional dates for these meetings are attached to the end of this report.

In addition we will be required to share the details of the Joint Primary Care Strategy and Implementation Plan which will follow from the first meeting once this has been approved. This will be subject to regular update.

Community Impact

Joint commissioning will enable Herefordshire CCG to work closely with NHS England to commission seamless, integrated out of hospital services which meet the local needs of the people of Herefordshire. The joint commissioning will also drive the development of new models of care such as multidisciplinary community care providers and primary and acute care systems.

Financial Implications

Joint commissioning (moving to delegated commissioning) responsibility will allow the pooling of primary care resources and management of budgets across the CCG and NHS England and allow us to further demonstrate value for money and invest in services which move care closer to home and reduce dependency on secondary care.

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12 March 2015
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Proposed dates of Joint Commissioning Meetings

Date	Time	Room
Thursday 23 rd April 2015 (TBC)	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Kington Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 18 th June 2015	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Kington Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 20 th August 2015	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Kington Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 29 th October 2015	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Mordiford Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 26 th November 2015	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Mordiford Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 21 st January 2016	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Kington Room, Plough Lane
Thursday 24 th March 2016	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Kington Room, Plough Lane