Establishing NHS Improvement

1. The Secretary of State announced on 16 July that a new organisation, NHS Improvement, will be created, and that the current functions of NHS England's Patient Safety Domain will transfer to it by 1 April 2016. It will be formed by bringing together Monitor and the Trust Development Authority under a single Chief Executive. Ed Smith has already been announced as Chair of this new organisation and Ara Darzi as its first non-executive director.

2. In addition to Patient Safety, NHS England's capability building and intensive support teams will also be transferring to NHS Improvement.

New National Architecture of Patient Safety – NHS Improvement's Patient Safety Roles

3. Whilst the full remit of NHS Improvement is not yet fully set out, it has been agreed that the full set of responsibilities with the NHS England Patient Safety Domain will transfer to NHS Improvement. These include:

   - The statutory responsibility for commissioning the National Reporting and Learning System; and the statutory responsibility for using that information to provide advice and guidance to the NHS 'for the purposes of maintaining and improving the safety of the services provided by the health service'

   - Providing professional clinical leadership on patient safety, and leading the alignment of patient safety priorities across various national bodies.

   - Gaining a better understanding of what goes wrong in healthcare (e.g redevelopment of the patient safety incident management system, stewardship of the Patient Safety Thermometers, etc.)

   - Enhancing NHS capability and capacity to improve patient safety (e.g. leadership of the patient safety collaboratives programme, the 'Q' quality fellowship initiative, Strategic alignment of responsibilities and programmes across the national NHS architecture, in close working partnerships with MHRA, CQC, NHSLA, and HEE among others.

   - Tacking key patient safety priorities, as informed by learning and insight from the NRLS and other sources.

4. In addition, the Secretary of State has indicated NHS Improvement will need to take on three additional priorities. Patient Safety has already been asked to help co-ordinate:

   - The Creation of a new Independent Patient Safety Investigation Service (IPSIS), as recommended by the recent PASC report.

- Providing expert advice on proposals for a Global Patient Safety Movement

- Oversight of the work that is progressing on safe staffing. The remit that Mike Durkin has been asked to consider also includes productivity, performance and efficiency in relation to safety.

IPSIS

5. The development of IPSIS will be informed by the work of an Expert Advisory Group members along with others who may be co-opted or invited to contribute to ensure both the appropriate representation and that the relevant expertise is available. The current membership includes:

- Dr Mike Durkin (Chair), Director of Patient Safety, NHS England
- Julian Brookes, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, PHE, and member of the Morecambe Bay Investigation team.
- Deborah Coles, Co-Director INQUEST
- Keith Conradi, Chief Inspector of the Air Accidents Investigations Branch.
- Dr Sunil Gupta, GP and Clinical Lead for Quality and on the Governing Body of Castle Point and Rochford CCG.
- Kate Lampard, CBE, former barrister and NHS strategic health authority chairman who provided oversight on the NHS's Savile investigations.
- Carl Macrae, Senior Research Fellow, University of Oxford
- Prof Martin Marshall CBE, Professor of Healthcare Improvement at UCL.
- Prof Jonathan Montgomery, Professor of Healthcare Law at UCL and member of the Morecambe Bay Investigation team.
- Scott Morrish
- Dame Eileen Sills, Chief Nurse and Director of Patient Experience, Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust
- James Titcombe OBE, CQC National Advisor on Patient Safety, Culture & Quality.
- Dr Nick Toff, Director for Clinical Quality, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

6. The Expert Advisory Group will make recommendations on the scope, governance and operating model for IPSIS.