

5 July 2013

To:

Area Team Directors
Area Team Directors of Commissioning
Area Team Directors of Finance

Cc:

Regional Directors
Regional Directors of Commissioning
Regional heads of primary care and public health

(by email)

Publications Gateway Reference: 00205

Dear Colleagues,

Personal Medical Services (PMS) Data Collection

We wrote to you on 5 June 2013 setting out our proposed way forward regarding PMS reviews. We are now asking Area Teams to undertake a data collection exercise to gather and understand at individual contract level the basis of existing PMS funding and its component parts.

This information will enable us to work with you to consider how far PMS expenditure (in so far as it exceeds the equivalent expenditure on GMS services) is effectively paying for 'core' primary care services and should be treated in the same way as MPIG expenditure, how far it is paying for innovation and quality improvement in primary care, and how far it is paying for 'enhanced' primary care services. The review will need to establish both how we ensure equitable 'core' funding between GMS and PMS practices and how we ensure the best possible value from investment in services that go beyond the 'core'.

This review will underpin decisions about handling of PMS resources from 2014/15 onwards. This makes for an extremely challenging timetable and we are therefore asking Area Teams to complete their returns within six weeks. We are

committed to supporting Area Teams in this work to make the process as smooth and efficient as possible.

Methodology

We have asked NHS Employers to manage this work on our behalf. Attached is a copy of the methodology to be applied in recording the data for individual PMS contracts. We would be grateful if all Area Teams could use the attached excel spreadsheet template to return this information.

Timescales

Area Teams are asked to submit their completed returns by Friday 16 August 2013 to pms@nhsemployers.org.

We have asked NHS Employers to work with Area Teams to provide progress updates around the end of July so that we can check that we are on track and can work collectively to address any issues arising - and to resolve any queries on your returns by the end of August.

Queries and Support

Queries on any aspect of the review can be sent to pms@nhsemployers.org
There will be four roadshows in mid-July which will give Area Teams the chance to raise any queries regarding the data collection exercise and discuss any issues with the project team directly. Dates will be circulated in due course. We will also collate any frequently asked questions which will be available at www.nhsemployers.org/pms along with a downloadable copy of the methodology and spreadsheet.

Yours sincerely



ANN SUTTON
Director of Commissioning



BEN DYSON
Director of Commissioning
Policy & Primary Care