

BOARD PAPER - NHS ENGLAND

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Title: Specialised Services Commissioning Committee (SSCC) update
From: Noel Gordon – Non-Executive Director and Chair of the SSCC
Purpose of paper: To update the board of the work and key decisions of the SSCC
Actions required by Committee Members: (i) To note the work and key decisions of the SSCC (ii) To take a verbal update on any issues arising since the last SSCC meeting on the 20 April

SPECIALISED COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE UPDATE TO BOARD 26MAY

Committee meetings

1. The last committee meeting was held on 20 April 2016. The Board should also note that members have agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on 31 May 2016.

Strategy and Reform

2. The Board will wish to note the work of the Committee on the vision for specialised services and a strategic framework to ensure specialised services are fully aligned with the Five Year Forward View and the sustainability and transformation agenda – the strategy will be considered as a separate item on the agenda for the Board to discuss.
3. The Collaborative Commissioning programme has been re-established with much stronger CCG ownership and a focus on patient pathways. Ten Collaborative Commissioning Hubs are now established across the country. The programme is also working much more closely with the devolution team to align overall approach.
4. Since approval of the new Cancer Drugs Fund (CDF) at the last Board meeting there has been considerable progress, and members of the committee will be shortly considering the Standard Operating Procedure for approval before 'go live' on 1 July 2016. The Board should note that on 16 March 2016, the NICE Board also agreed to these proposals, which included publishing amendments to the Technology Appraisal processes and methods on the NICE website on 1 April 2016.
5. The committee has overseen the process to develop a new prioritisation methodology for CPAG to deploy in the next annual prioritisation round for new products, services and treatments that are within NHS England's discretion. The methodology was subject to a 12 week public consultation and the committee will consider the responses before making its final decision on whether to approve.
6. The committee received an update on the High Cost Devices service review and welcomed actions to utilise the 'collective

purchasing power' of the NHS to drive savings by creating a single buyer to act on behalf of multiple trusts.

Assurance

7. The committee received a financial update for month 11 and has noted risks to the delivery of an overall breakeven position and the mitigating actions.
8. The committee received an update on the current position for 16/17 contract negotiations on 20 April 2016, and will receive a further update at the next committee meeting.

Live Issues

9. The committee will consider legal advice on commissioning responsibility for 'PrEP' (the provision of anti-retroviral drugs for the prevention of HIV), including whether it should be re-incorporated into the annual specialised commissioning prioritisation process for 16/17. The Committee will hold an Extraordinary meeting at the end of May to consider the issue of PrEP (this will enable the committee to take a decision prior to the annual 2016/17 CPAG prioritisation process beginning in June).

Noel Gordon
Chair, Specialised Services Commissioning Committee