

NHS ENGLAND – BOARD PAPER

Title:

NHS England's Mandate and Business Plan for 2017/18

Lead Director:

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Purpose of Paper:

To inform the Board of the publication of NHS England's Mandate for 2017/18 and the development of NHS England's business plan for 2017/18.

The Board is invited to:

The Board is asked to note the publication of the Mandate for 2017/18 and the forthcoming publication of 'Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View', which incorporates our business plan for 2017/18.

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NHS England's Mandate and Business Plan for 2017/18

Introduction

1. The Government publishes a Mandate for NHS England before the start of each financial year. The Mandate sets out the Government's objectives for the NHS via NHS England and also its budget. In turn, NHS England produces a business plan before the start of each financial year. Amongst other contents, this sets out how NHS England will progress the objectives set out in the Mandate.

The Mandate for 2017/18

2. The Government's 2017/18 Mandate for NHS England was published on 20 March 2017, and is available [here](#).

Our business plan

3. For 2017/18, our business plan will essentially take the form of a 'Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View' plan, developed in partnership with the other principal leadership bodies in the NHS.
4. The plan will describe service improvements with a particular focus on the next two financial years, and will also set out how we expect Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) to evolve, with increasing collaboration across providers, commissioners and local government.
5. The plan will begin with an assessment of where the NHS is in 2017, giving a balanced assessment of progress since the Five Year Forward View was published. It will then turn to what will be achieved over the next two years, focusing on top national priorities.
6. The plan will describe key national actions the NHS needs to take to increase efficiency, supporting commissioners and providers each to manage within the financial envelope set by Parliament.
7. Finally, the plan will describe the steps we will take to strengthen the NHS workforce over the next two years, continue to improve safety and to harness technology and innovation to improve services.
8. At its February meeting, the Board agreed that finalisation of the plan would be confirmed by the Chief Executive, Chair and Vice Chair. The plan will be published on Friday 31 March 2017.

Recommendation

9. The Board is asked to note the publication of the Mandate for 2017/18 and the forthcoming publication of 'Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View', which incorporates our business plan for 2017/18.