



To: National Quality Board

For meeting on: 17 February 2016

Report author: NQB Secretariat

Report for:

Decision	Discussion	Information
	X	

TITLE: NQB’s Quality Strategy Workstream

Summary:

As part of the NQB’s Quality Strategy Workstream, the purpose of this paper and accompanying slide-deck is to update the NQB on the emerging views of the NQB’s Quality Strategy Working Group and request feedback on the proposed direction of travel.

Recommendations / Action(s) requested:

The NQB is asked to:

- a) Consider and discuss the emerging views of the Quality Strategy Working Group, both in relation to “defining quality” and the “collective approach to improving quality”.
- b) Consider and confirm the stated purpose and scope of the “narrative for quality”.
- c) Note the proposed workstreams and high-level timeline for the development and publication of the “narrative on quality”.

ALB Involvement in development and sign-off of paper:

X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

**ADDENDUM**

The *Shared Commitment to Quality - from the National Quality Board* was published by the National Quality Board in December 2016. To access this, please click on the following [link](#).

## NQB's Quality Strategy Workstream

### Purpose

1. This purpose of this paper and enclosed slide-deck is to update the National Quality Board on the emerging views of the NQB's Quality Strategy Working Group and request feedback on the proposed direction of travel.

### Background

2. At the last meeting of the National Quality Board (NQB) in December 2015, it was agreed that a Quality Strategy Working Group should be established to take forward the NQB's work in respect of the Quality Strategy workstream.
3. The Working Group has met twice since the last NQB meeting, both on 19 January 2016 and 9 February 2016 and has representation from all NQB member organisations.
4. The attached slide deck has two purposes: to share the emerging content of a 'narrative for quality'; and to set out how we will go about developing the product, to what timetable.

### Emerging view: *A shared definition of quality*

5. **Slides 3 to 11** provide an overview of the emerging view in relation to "a shared definition / vision of quality".
6. The proposed definition on **slide 6** seeks to align the various frameworks already in use and bring together the three 'gaps' (quality, health and well-being, efficiency) with equality, leadership, workforce and improvement.
7. If there is broad support for the proposed definition, the key will be for ALBs to commit to clearly communicating and explaining *how* their work aligns to the definition. Opportunities to embed a shared view of quality are being identified, but include:
  - Bilateral and multilateral discussions between ALBs.
  - Local Sustainability & Transformation Plans will be shared by all local partners and could be a mechanism to embed the new definition / vision.
  - The new CCG Improvement and Assessment Framework.
  - Quality Surveillance Groups provide an important coordinating function at both a local and regional level.
  - Relationships with professional regulators.

- Link to the National Leadership Development and Improvement Strategy.
- Other measurement/reporting frameworks e.g. Quality Accounts, QOF, social care outcomes framework, Public Health.

### Emerging view: *Our collective approach to improving quality*

8. **Slides 12 to 14** provide an overview of the emerging view in respect of the collective approach to improving quality.
9. By 2020 we need to “close the quality gap”. Central to this will be national and local partners taking action around common goals, within a common framework. The development and articulation of this collective approach to improving quality is designed to help national and local partners understand their role in respect of improving quality, and the tools and levers available to them.
10. In 2008, Darzi outlined seven steps for high quality care in his report, High Quality Care for All. This model has been extremely effective and valuable in driving quality improvement at both a local and national level.
11. However since then the climate has changed. The system faces major challenges; there is unacceptable variation of care; there is an urgent need to align a fragmented system; and the sector has a clear and shared set of common priorities in the Five Year Forward View.
12. The Working Group has therefore set out to revisit this quality framework to ensure that it is both relevant and fit for purpose. The Working Group recognises the value of the Darzi framework, and has set out to build upon this, updating the seven elements to ensure that they are both relevant to the current context and fit for purpose. **Slide 14** sets out the Working Group vision for six interconnected elements of quality.

### Describing and developing the product (the “narrative on Quality”)

13. **Slides 15 to 18** provide an overview of what the product might be and how we would go about developing it – the “narrative on Quality”, to be published in autumn 2016.
14. **Slide 16** describes the purpose, scope and intended audience of the “narrative on quality”.
15. On **slide 17**, the Working Group has proposed that the work be managed under four key workstreams:

- policy development;
- stakeholder engagement;
- development and drafting of the document; and
- project and programme management.

16. A high-level timeline is enclosed at **slide 18**.

### **Questions for the NQB**

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- b) Consider and confirm that the stated purpose and scope of the “narrative for quality”.
- c) Note the proposed workstreams and high-level timeline for the development and publication of the “narrative on quality”.

**NQB Secretariat**  
**February 2016**