

NHS England – Board Paper

Title:

CCG assessment 2016/17 year-end ratings

Lead Director:

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Purpose of Paper:

NHS England has a statutory duty to conduct an annual performance assessment of each CCG. The paper presents the first annual assessment using the CCG improvement and assessment framework, introduced in 2016/17.

The Board is invited to:

- consider the CCG year-end assessment ratings and associated improvement work.

Introduction

1. NHS England has a statutory duty to undertake an annual assessment of CCGs. In previous years, this was done as part of the CCG assurance framework.
2. In 2015/16, CCGs were assessed according to five domains: leadership, finance, performance, planning and delegated functions. The ratings for each CCG were issued in July 2016, following ratification by the Commissioning Committee. In 2015/16, new terminology was introduced at the request of the Department of Health, that described CCG assessments in Ofsted-style language of outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate.
3. In March 2016, the CCG improvement and assessment framework (CCG IAF) for 2016/17 was published. This framework describes that CCGs will receive an annual assessment by NHS England derived from their performance. In addition, CCGs are subject to independent assessment of their performance in 2016/17 in clinical priority areas including cancer, mental health, and dementia.
4. The Commissioning Committee considered the assessment methodology and 2016/17 CCG year-end assessments at its June meeting. These assessments were subsequently issued to CCGs prior to their public release on the myNHS website today.
5. The Board is asked to consider the year-end assessments of CCGs and associated improvement work.

NHS England's annual performance assessment of CCGs 2016/17

6. The CCG IAF is built around 60 indicators selected to track and assess variation across 29 policy areas covering performance, delivery, outcomes, finance and leadership. This year, assessments have been derived partly using an algorithmic approach informed by statistical best practice.
7. The final ratings of CCGs is presented in the following table:

| Category | No of CCGs at year-end 2015/16 | No of CCGs at year-end 2016/17 |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Inadequate | 26 | 23 |
| Requires Improvement | 91 | 66 |
| Good | 82 | 99 |
| Outstanding | 10 | 21 |

8. Overall the results for 2016/17 represent an improvement from 2015/16, which is a significant achievement for commissioners during what has been a challenging year for the NHS.

Clinical Priority Area Assessments

9. In 2015/16, CCGs received initial assessments of their performance in six clinical priority areas (cancer, mental health, dementia, diabetes, learning disabilities and maternity) overseen by independent clinical panels. These assessments have been repeated for performance during 2016/17 for Next Steps key priority areas of cancer, mental health, and dementia, where more recent data is now available. These have also been released today.

NHS England interventions and initiatives

10. All CCGs assessed as inadequate at the year-end have been placed in NHS England's special measures regime. This allows the closer involvement of NHS England's regional team to support CCGs and encompasses the application of national NHS England support programmes.

11. NHS England has established a Commissioning Capability Programme with the aim of strengthening skills and capability to deliver the requirements of the evolving health and care system. We have worked with external and internal stakeholders to design the programme. The programme will:

- Address shortcomings identified via the CCG Improvement and Assessment Framework, in particular leadership and governance, by providing tailored, place-based support to those CCGs placed in special measures. The exact support offer will depend on the action plans already in place at local/regional level.
- Support the delivery of priority programmes, informed by the clinical panel assessments: urgent and emergency care, mental health, cancer and primary care and learning disabilities and dementia. This will build from existing initiatives led by clinical programme teams.
- Enable Accountable Care Systems to prepare for the future by equipping them with skills such as whole population analytics.

Recommendation

12. The Board is asked to note the 2016/17 CCG year-end assessments and associated improvement work.