

NHS England – Board Paper**Title:**

Specialised Services Commissioning Committee (SSCC) Report

Lead Director:

Noel Gordon – Non-Executive Director and Chair of the SSCC

Purpose of Paper:

To update the Board on SSCC business.

The Board is invited to:

- (i) note the work and key decisions of the SSCC

Specialised Services Commissioning Committee Report

Report to the Board from: Specialised Services Commissioning Committee
Committee Chair: Noel Gordon
Date of the Committee meeting: 23 April 2018

Committee meetings

1. This report covers the last Committee meeting, held on 23 April 2018.

Implementation

Healthcare for armed forces and their families

2. The Committee received an outline of the key features and challenges of commissioning healthcare for armed forces and their families.
3. The Committee agreed that the following actions should be taken forward:
 - develop a refreshed commissioning strategy for armed forces and their families;
 - undertake a programme of work that will enable the continued improvement of bespoke mental health services;
 - develop and maintain a communications and engagement strategy that will support partnership working with the Ministry of Defence;
 - continue clinical leadership through the Armed Forces Clinical Reference Group and strategic partnership working through the defence health optimisation study;
 - roll out, following a successful pilot in the West Midlands, veteran friendly accreditation to practices in England;
 - continue the programme of review of the structure, procedures and governance of Armed Forces commissioning in England; and
 - develop a resourcing and capability approach to support implementation in the next 12 months.

Decommissioning in specialised services

4. The Committee received an update on a proposal to undertake work on decommissioning within specialised commissioning, which is designed to ensure that NHS resources are more effectively focused on clinical interventions of proven value, by reducing ineffective care and unwarranted variations in care. Published evidence suggests that success will rely on a multi-agency approach which, in the context of specialised interventions, will include amongst others: clinical leaders, NICE and the National Institute for Health Research.
5. The Committee noted the framework for developing this work and asked for it to be aligned to the wider Value Interventions Programme within NHS England. Further governance will be coordinated between SSCC and Commissioning Committee.

Biosimilars

6. The Committee considered options for encouraging appropriate usage of biologic and biosimilar medicines.

Assurance

7. The Committee took updates on:

- February and March 2018 meetings of the Patient and Public Voice Assurance Group, which considered: sarcoma; paediatric critical care and specialised surgery in children review; CAMHs Tier 4; congenital gynaecological abnormalities; genetic testing directory; oesophageal and gastric cancer surgery service review; and intestinal failure. There was also discussion on PPV involvement in place-based commissioning;
- 2017/18 financial planning position at month 11, the latest position on provider contracts; and the latest position for 2018/19 on the contract and financial plans refresh;
- the Specialised Commissioning Oversight Group meetings in February and March 2018, including: updates on national clinical priorities; Clinical Priorities Advisory Group recommendations; service procurements; overseas treatments; High Secure Psychiatric Services National Oversight Group; quality surveillance and improvement; and research priorities;
- The Cancer Drugs Fund Investment Group.

Live issues

8. The Committee received updates on:

- commercial developments, including the strategic procurement of Hepatitis C;
- implementation of the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) trial;
- the delivery of in-patient and bed reductions in Specialised Commissioning to support the delivery of Transforming Care;
- the progress being made in delivering Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tier 4 bed provision;
- health and justice commissioning; and
- the procurement of genomic laboratories.