

Annual Report & Effectiveness Review – Specialised Services Commissioning Committee

Introduction

1. The Board has established a Specialised Services Commissioning Committee as a committee of the Board for the purposes of assuring the Board that allocation for specialised commissioning is utilised to maximise value, improve patient and population outcomes and ensure sustainability and transformation as part of wider programmes across the NHS. The Committee's work programme should align with implementation of the required changes in how specialised services are to be commissioned and provided, specifically: delivery of place and population based systems of care, reforms at the national level to enable local flexibility and ensuring financial sustainability

Meetings of Committee

2. During this period, the Committee met on six occasions.
3. The following members of the Specialised Services Commissioning Committee have been appointed by the Board:
 - Non-Executive Director - Chair
 - Chief Financial Officer
 - National Medical Director
 - National Director: Commissioning Strategy
 - Non-Executive Director
 - Chief Executive Officer
 - Acting Director of Specialised Commissioning
4. Professor Sir John Burn (NED) was a member of the committee until 30 November 2017. Moira Gibb replaced him in the NED role in January 2018. Professor Sir Bruce Keogh was a member until retirement from NHS England on 28 January 2018. Professor Stephen Powis has since taken his place. Matthew Swindells was a member until September 2017.
5. A summary of members' attendance is provided at Annex 1.
6. Additional attendees have been invited to attend meetings to assist with committee business. For 2017/18, these have included: Director of Strategy and Policy, Specialised Commissioning; Medical Director, Specialised Commissioning; Finance Director, Specialised Commissioning; Operational Delivery Director, Specialised Commissioning; and Commercial Director, Specialised Commissioning. The Chair of the Board of NHS England reserves and exercises the right to attend any or all meetings of this Committee.

Delivery of work programme

7. During 2017/18, the Committee has:

- Overseen the development and, in some areas, implementation of:
 - place-based commissioning of specialised services, building on the plans for Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships;
 - new approaches to service reviews and quality assurance;
 - proposals on improving performance and delivery assurance, alongside a strengthened approach to business intelligence;
 - a strategy for improving dialogue with patients and the public;
 - a framework for securing maximum value from medicines spend;
 - refined commissioning policies, used to guide NHS England's decision making, including service development policy, Individual Funding Requests (IFR) policy and clinical trial policy;
 - a review of health and justice commissioning in England;
 - the approach to implementing the UK Strategy for Rare Diseases;
 - a multi-year strategic approach to achieve affordable and accelerated hepatitis C elimination;
 - proposals for a new model of care for gender identity services;
 - a set of strategic priorities for specialised services;
 - incentives to encourage NHS trusts to switch to biosimilars.
- Overseen Specialised Commissioning's approach to NHS England's clinical priority areas – cancer, mental health and learning disabilities – and specific service reviews, such as the congenital heart disease review.
- Reviewed and agreed the routine commissioning of new treatments.
- Provided assurance and oversight for:
 - the Cancer Drugs Fund;
 - specialised commissioning financial plans for 2017/18 and 2018/19;
 - operational decisions taken by NHS England's Specialised Commissioning Oversight Group (SCOG);
 - decisions made by the Specialised Commissioning Patient and Public Voice Assurance Group;
 - decisions taken by the Health & Justice Oversight Group and the Armed Forces Oversight Group.

Work programme for 2018/19

8. The Committee's priority for 2018/19 is to continue supporting the implementation of the strategic priorities for specialised services, as well as overseeing new areas of responsibility. This will require the Committee to provide assurance to the Board on:
- financial control for specialised services and achieving efficiency savings for 2018/19 to 2020/21;
 - how specialised commissioning is supporting improvements in patient care in relation to NHS England's clinical priorities, particularly for mental health, learning disabilities and cancer;
 - the continued implementation of priority programmes, such as: service transformation; place-based commissioning; strengthening assurance of performance and delivery; the medicines value programme; and quality assurance;

- commercial capability and capacity and the timely and affordable introduction of cost-effective new technologies;
- which new treatments will be routinely commissioned by NHS England for 2018/19 and 2019/20, taking advice from the Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG) and SCOG.

Review of Terms of Reference

9. The terms of reference for the Committee have been reviewed.
10. The Chair of the NHS England Board reserves and exercises the right to attend any or all of the meetings of this Committee.

Review of effectiveness

11. The Committee plans to undertake a full review of its effectiveness during the coming year, and can confirm that it has met its statutory duties as delegated by the Board during 2017/18.

Assurance statement

12. As Chair, I can confirm that the Specialised Services Commissioning Committee has reviewed its business over 2017-18 and met its delegated duties. There are no significant issues of concern for the Board in this Annual Report.

Recommendations

13. The Board is asked to:
 - i. Note the report;
 - ii. Take assurance from the Committee with regard to delivery of the work programme.

Noel Gordon
Chair, Specialised Services Commissioning Committee

Annex 1

| Member | Number of eligible meetings attended during the year | Comments |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Noel Gordon (NED Chair) | 5/6 | |
| Professor Sir John Burn (NED) | 4/4 | Member until November 2017 |
| Michelle Mitchell (NED) | 6/6 | |
| Moira Gibb (NED) | 1/1 | Member since January 2018 |
| Professor Sir Bruce Keogh | 5/5 | Member until retirement from NHS England in January 2018 |
| Paul Baumann | 6/6 | |
| Ian Dodge | 5/6 | |
| Matthew Swindells | 0/3 | Member until September 2017 |
| John Stewart | 6/6 | |
| Simon Stevens | 5/6 | |
| Professor Stephen Powis | 1/1 | Member since January 2018 |