

## NHS ENGLAND – BOARD PAPER

<p><b>Title:</b></p> <p>Investment and evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement <i>The NHS Long Term Plan</i></p>
<p><b>Lead Director:</b></p> <p>Ian Dodge: National Director, Strategy and Innovation</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Paper:</b></p> <p>In July 2018, the Board agreed we should embark on the most significant contract reform since 2004. NHS England has now reached agreement with the BMA General Practitioner’s Committee in England on a five-year framework, to implement the primary care elements of <i>The NHS Long-Term Plan</i>.</p>
<p><b>Patient and Public Involvement:</b></p> <p><i>The NHS Long Term Plan</i> was based on the advice and experience of patients, the public, stakeholders and clinicians. In addition, dedicated engagement exercises were held on specific facets of this framework: changing the Quality and Outcomes Framework (as set out in QOF Review) and the reform of payment for Digital-First primary care. We will continue to engage widely on implementing the different components of the agreement, including the three new reviews of (i) access arrangements, (ii) out-of-area registration and patient choice, and (iii) vaccination and immunisation arrangements, as well as the development of the seven new service specifications. This agreement will also embed <i>The NHS Comprehensive Model of Personalised Care</i> within primary care, which is based on engaging people fully in their own care, sharing control and connecting them to wider societal support.</p>
<p><b>The Board invited to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approve the publication of <i>Investment and Evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement the NHS Long Term Plan</i></li></ul>

## Investment and Evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement *The NHS Long Term Plan*

1. In July 2018 the Board agreed that NHS England should start significant discussions with the BMA General Practitioners Committee (GPC) in England on reform of the GP Contract, to take account of (i) the then forthcoming NHS Long Term-Plan and five-year funding settlement; (ii) the workforce challenge facing primary care; (iii) changes to indemnity; (iv) the review of QOF; (v) the development of Primary Care Networks; and (vi) the Partnership Review.
2. NHS England in-housed the negotiations from NHS Employers. A new team was established, comprising ICS leaders (Dr Amanda Doyle and Dr Cathy Winfield), Dr Abid Irfan, Ed Waller (vice chair), Dr Nikita Kanani, and Ian Dodge (chair). Following extensive discussions with GPC England, in parallel to the development of *The NHS Long Term Plan*, we have agreed a new five-year framework for the GP services contract to deliver the commitments in *The NHS Long Term Plan*. This deal involved considerable joint working across different directorates. It is supported by Government.
3. *Investment and Evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement the NHS Long Term Plan* is a joint agreement document with GPC England.
4. The agreement is wide-ranging:
  - **seeks to address the workforce shortfall (chapter 1)**: Through a new *Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme*, Primary Care Networks will be guaranteed funding for up to an estimated 20,000+ additional staff in five specific roles (pharmacists, social prescribing link workers, physician associates, first contract physiotherapists, and community paramedics) by 2023/24. These are roles for which there is supply and demand. The scheme will be backed by £891million of new investment by 2023/24;
  - **brings a permanent solution to indemnity costs and coverage (chapter 2)** with the launch of the Government's new *Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice* in April 2019;
  - **improves the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) (chapter 3)** in line with the findings of our comprehensive review of QOF in 2018. From April 2019 it will bring improvements in the management of diabetes, hypertension and cervical screening;
  - **introduces an automatic entitlement for practices to a new Primary Care Network (PCN) Contract (chapter 4), as an extension of their existing GP contracts**. PCNs are an essential building block of every Integrated Care System and under the Network Contract, general practice takes a leading role in every PCN. We expect 100% coverage of the Network Contract by 1 July 2019, each supported by a named accountable Clinical Director;
  - **helps join-up urgent care services and enable practices and patients to benefit from digital technologies (chapter 5)**. This includes IT infrastructure and digital first support, and new patient rights to digital-first primary care in 2021. We will be reviewing arrangements for access and out-of area registration in 2019;

- **delivers new services to achieve NHS Long Term Plan commitments**, including through seven new national network service specifications covering: (i) medication reviews, (ii) anticipatory care for people with multi-morbidities, (iii) the care homes vanguard model, (iv) personalised care (to implement *Universal Personalised Care*); (v) supporting earlier cancer diagnosis; (vi) cardio-vascular disease prevention and diagnosis; and (vii) inequalities. We will review vaccination and immunisation arrangements in 2019. From April 2020, every PCN will be able to see the benefits its achieving for its local community and patients through a new Network Dashboard. A national Network Investment and Impact Fund will start in 2020 and rise to £300 million in 2023/24 to help PCNs plan and achieve better performance against metrics in the Network Dashboard including population health, urgent and anticipatory care, and wider NHS utilisation;
- **gives five-year funding clarity and certainty for practices:** Resources for primary medical and community services will increase by over £4.5 billion by 2023/24, and rise as a share of the overall NHS budget. This agreement confirms how much of this will flow through intended national legal entitlements for general practice under the practice and network contract. The extent to which these resources are spent will depend on the extent to which general practice draws down its entitlements over this five-year period;
- **tests future contract changes prior to introduction** through a new testbed programme.

### Next steps

5. The agreement sets out the next steps and the major programme of work that will be undertaken over each of the next three years by NHS England working with GPC England and wider stakeholders.

### Recommendations

6. The Board is invited to approve the publication of *Investment and Evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement the NHS Long Term Plan*

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