

NHS England and NHS Improvement Board meetings held in common

Paper Title: NHS England Mandate Assurance 2018/19

Agenda item: 11

Report by: Ian Dodge, National Director Strategy and Innovation

Paper type: For noting

Summary/recommendation:

The Boards are invited to note the Government’s statutory annual assessment of NHS England’s performance covering the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years.

1. **Under existing statute, the accountability of NHS England to the Government is clear, comprehensive, and transparent.** Amongst his other various responsibilities, Secretary of State must set a formal Mandate, with associated funding, and then is obliged to publish an assessment of NHS England performance every year under section 13(L)4 of the 2012 Act.
2. **In July 2019 the Secretary of State published his annual assessment letter for 2018/19, also covering the period 2017/18. Attached at annex A, this includes a full report of the Department of Health and Social Care’s view of NHS performance against each objective.**
3. Mandate commitments are judged using a four-point scale of red, amber/red, amber/green, green. **The statutory assessment showed that DHCS/the Government consider that NHS England successfully delivered the vast majority of specific commitments set out in the Mandate for both 2017/18 and 2018/19:**

Totals	2017/18		2018/19	
	Number	%	Number	%
Green	31	50%	33	53%
Amber/Green	27	44%	22	35%
Amber/Red	2	3%	2	3%
Red	1	2%	3	5%
Grey	0	0%	2	3%
N/A	1	2%	0	0%

4. **For 2019/20 a streamlined Mandate covers both NHS England and NHS Improvement (renamed the Accountability Framework), with one integrated**



set of formal senior sponsorship arrangements, and an integrated six-monthly assessment process. It sets two high level objectives for the NHS for 2019/20:

- Objective 1: Ensure the effective delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan; and
- Objective 2: Support Government in managing the effects of EU Exit on health and care.