

## NHS England and NHS Improvement Board meetings held in common

<b>Paper Title:</b>	NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance 2020/21
<b>Agenda item:</b>	5 (Public session)
<b>Report by:</b>	Julian Kelly, Chief Financial Officer
<b>Paper type:</b>	For approval

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### Summary/recommendation:

To approve publication of the NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance 2020/21 (planning guidance). This report provides a summary of the guidance as currently drafted and sets out the timetable for the submission process which should be completed by May 2020.

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## Background

1. The planning guidance supports the operational planning round for the NHS. This follows on from the Long Term Plan Implementation Framework, published in June 2019, which the NHS has used to create 42 system-wide strategic plans. Organisations and systems will use operational planning to confirm and build on their system strategic plans.

## System Planning

2. The planning guidance sets out the next steps for the NHS as we:
  - a. Continue to strengthen our new operating model and increasingly move to a 'system by default' model.
  - b. Support every part of the country to become an Integrated Care System (ICS) by April 2021 and articulate the two 'core roles' for an ICS of system transformation and the collective management of system performance.

## Operational Priorities

3. Within the planning guidance we ask the NHS to:
  - a. Deliver the 2020/21 elements of the NHS Long Term Plan commitments, which local systems have developed through their strategic plans including specific deliverables on mental health, cancer, and learning disability and autism.
  - b. Maintain and improve access to services. To assist with managing UEC demand we are asking the NHs to plan on the basis of reducing bed occupancy levels to a maximum of 92% through acute bed expansions and increasing community care.
  - c. Expand primary and community services through investment of the additional LTP revenue funding an increase in PCN staff under the Additional Roles Scheme, increasing the number of doctors working in

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- primary care and, as a result, increasing the number of appointments in general practice.
- d. A more proactive approach on the prevention of ill-health and embracing the opportunities offered by technology;
  - e. Continue with the implementation of our People Plan, increasing the number of nurses working in the NHS through improved retention and expansion of international recruitment.
  - f. Deliver financial goals and recovery trajectories.
  - g. Begin the transformation of our outpatient services through the avoidance of unnecessary face-to-face appointments.

## Timetable

4. The proposed timetable for submission of draft, interim and final plans as well as the agreement of contracts is set out in the table below.

Milestone	Date
Further operational and technical guidance ready for issue	w/c 20 January 2020
Draft 2020/21 NHS Standard Contract published for consultation	19 December 2019- 31 January 2020
2020/21 CQUIN guidance published	January 2020
National tariff published	January
First submission of draft operational plans and system-led narrative plans	5 March 2020
2020/21 STP/ICS led contract/plan alignment submission	12 March 2020
Deadline for 2020/21 contract signature	27 March 2020
Parties entering arbitration to present themselves to National Directors of NHS Improvement and England (or their representatives)	6 April – 10 April 2020
Submission of appropriate arbitration documentation	15 April 2020
Final submission of operational plans and system-led narrative plans	29 April 2020
Publication of the People Plan and national implementation plan for the NHS Long Term Plan	March/April 2020
Arbitration panel and/or hearing (with written findings issued to both parties within two working days after panel)	16 April – 1 May 2020
2020/21 STP/ICS led contract/plan final alignment submission	6 May 2020
Contract and schedule revisions reflecting arbitration findings completed and signed by both parties	8 May 2020