

Appendix 1

Development of Clear and Credible Plans by Clinical Commissioning Groups

Briefing for Health Scrutiny Committee October 2011

Introduction

During October and November 2011, NHS Tees and the four local pathfinder Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) will undertake communication and engagement with patients, patient representatives and stakeholders around the development of Clear and Credible Plan(s) by pathfinder CCGs across Teesside.

The aim of this activity is to ensure that:

- Patients, patient representatives and stakeholders are engaged in the development of Clear and Credible Plans by CCGs;
- Key messages about local progress with CCGs are communicated;
- NHS Tees satisfies its duty to involve users under section 242 (1B) and the NHS Constitution;
- Pathfinder CCGs are prepared for the meeting of their statutory duties around engagement and can demonstrate effective involvement as part of the authorisation process.

Background

As part of the NHS reforms set out by the Government in *Liberating the NHS: Equity and Excellence*, from April 2013 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) will take on statutory responsibilities for commissioning health services following the abolition of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs).

In preparation for their new role, groups of GP Practices have come together to shadow PCTs as 'pathfinder' CCGs to work together to manage local budgets and commission services for patients directly with other NHS colleagues and local authorities. In Teesside, four such pathfinder CCGs have been formed: Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, North Tees (Stockton-on-Tees) and Redcar and Cleveland (Langbaugh and Greater Eston).

In order to become fully-formed and autonomous CCGs, and therefore to directly take on their statutory responsibilities for commissioning, each pathfinder CCG must apply for authorisation from the NHS Commissioning Board. This authorisation process includes the submission of a Clear and Credible Plan, including initial Commissioning Intentions for the next three years. The intention is for Clear and Credible Plans to be submitted by January 2012.

Communication and Engagement

During October and November 2011, local pathfinder CCGs, supported by NHS Tees will:

- Communicate key messages and raise awareness of local progress in establishing pathfinder CCGs;
- Seek the views of patients, patient representatives and stakeholders on the vision for CCGs, priority areas and future mechanisms for communication and engagement.

An online survey will be distributed to key stakeholders and partners, including OSC's, LINKs and MY NHS members, in order to seek the views of patients, patient representatives and stakeholders around CCGs' Clear and Credible Plans.

The outcomes of this activity will inform future plans for ensuring effective communication and engagement with the local community as CCGs continue on their path towards authorisation and autonomy.

As part of the online survey, the following questions will be asked:

1. Which area of Teesside are you from? (*Hartlepool / Middlesbrough / Redcar and Cleveland / Stockton-on-Tees / I live outside Teesside*).
2. Prior to this communication, had you heard about Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) or GP Commissioning before? (*Yes / No / Don't Know*)
3. Each CCG will develop a vision which will be spell out its overall goal and guide decision-making. What do you think the CCG's main goal should be? (*Free Text*).
4. What do you think are the top three priorities for improving health services in your area? (*First Priority / Second Priority / Third Priority*)
5. How would you like to hear about the work of CCGs in future? (*Local Press (Newspapers) / Website / Email / Social Media (Twitter / Facebook) / Leaflets / Information in GP Practice / Other, please state*).
6. How would you like to have your say about health services in future? (*Online Survey / Paper Survey / Focus Group / Social Media / Being part of a GP Practice Patient Group / Through LINKs or Local HealthWatch / Other, please state*)
7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions about CCGs on Teesside? (*Free Text*).

Diversity monitoring questions will also be asked.

Communications will begin during the week commencing 10 October. Engagement activity will begin week commencing 24 October 2011 and run until 18 November 2011. A report of findings will be available by 25 November 2011.

Action Required

Overview and Scrutiny are asked to consider the content of this briefing and highlight any particular issues that they feel may need addressing and how they wish to be involved.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Communication and Engagement Action Plan for CCG CCPs