

**TITLE OF REPORT: Personal Health Budgets - Update**

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**Purpose of the Report**

There is a requirement to advise the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) how Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group (NG CCG) will continuously develop the local offer for Personal Health Budgets (PHB).

**Background**

The NHS Five Year Forward View sets out the vision for the future NHS including a new relationship with patients and communities that supports people to gain far greater control of their own care when they need health services. A key part of this is developing how Personalised Care is offered to individuals.

On May 12th 2018 all CCG's received a communication from NHS England that asks that all Continuing Healthcare (CHC) home care packages of care be delivered as Personal Health Budgets (PHBs) by April 2019.

There is strong evidence of improved outcomes as a result of the introduction of personal health budgets, including increased quality of life and reduced need for unplanned NHS care such as emergency hospital admission.

As a result NHS England believes that all NHS CHC funded packages delivered in a home care setting, excluding fast track NHS CHC, should be managed as a personal health budget, and that they should become the default operating model for this group by April 2019. This means that individuals know what their budget is, are involved in personalised care and support planning and have greater control over how the budget is used, including the option of a direct payment.

[http://www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk/asset.cfm?a=%2F\\_assets%2Fsecure%2Fphb/2018/Personal-health-budgets-in-NHS-Continuing-Healthcare-letter.pdf](http://www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk/asset.cfm?a=%2F_assets%2Fsecure%2Fphb/2018/Personal-health-budgets-in-NHS-Continuing-Healthcare-letter.pdf)

PHBs offer people a chance to take as much or little control over the care that they receive as they want to take. Many people in receipt of CHC have chosen to have a Direct Payment PHB which allows them to have more choice over who provides their care; and how they spend the budget based on agreed health outcomes.

However lots of other people don't want to have the responsibilities that come with having a Direct Payment PHB and have chosen to have a "notional" PHB. This option will be attractive to those people who are happy with their care arrangements and want very little or nothing to change at present. People can change this if they choose to in future.

A “notional” PHB is based on an essential Support Plan in which health outcomes are agreed with a Case Manager, and this shows how someone’s care and support is to be provided. CHC patients will be provided information about the different PHB options, the amount of money available for their care and with help to complete the Support Plan.

### **CCG Progress to date**

The CCG has an agreed trajectory to meet with regards to the numbers of PHBs offered and in place. Initially, progress against this trajectory was slow but in 2018/19, we have refreshed our approach. In Quarter 1 of 2018/19 the CCG was on track to achieve its trajectory and are performing well against other CCGs nationally.

In response to the NHS England letter in May 2018, the CCG have changed processes to ensure that individuals know what their budget is and what options they have for managing this budget.

In our bid to continuously develop our offer, we have joined a mentorship programme and have engaged in sharing best practice with Hull CCG. We participate in the North East Regional PHB Network and take up opportunities to learn and share with CCGs around the country. To ensure that people using a personal health budget are supported to do so, the CCG have piloted a Brokerage service. This pilot is due to end in March 2019 and the CCG Clinical Executive Committee is considering options for the future commissioning of support and brokerage services later in October 2018.

### **Recommendations**

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider progress to date and assurance that the CCG will achieve the aim of the May 2018 letter to ensure that PHBs are the default for all CHC patients.

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