

TITLE OF REPORT: Primary Care (Medical Services) Governance Arrangements

Purpose of the Report

1. To advise the Health & Wellbeing Board on the revised governance arrangements for Primary Care Commissioning including changes to Committee Terms of Reference.

Background

2. NHS England has responsibility for commissioning primary medical care services. This has been undertaken jointly with Newcastle Gateshead CCG during the last two years. From April 2017, responsibility for commissioning primary medical services will be delegated to Newcastle Gateshead CCG.
3. As part of the nationally agreed arrangements for joint commissioning between NHS England and the CCG, a representative from both Healthwatch and the Health and Wellbeing Board attend the Primary Care Joint Committee. The committee meets in public, unless the business being transacted requires the meeting to be held in private, in accordance with the CCG Standing Orders.
4. To reflect the increased responsibility for primary care commissioning, the CCG will establish a revised Primary Care Commissioning Committee, with effect from April 2017.

Proposal

5. The Newcastle Gateshead CCG primary care commissioning governance arrangements will be in accordance with the national recommendations and draw on experience of areas that have been operating fully delegated arrangements for one or two years.
6. The Primary Care Commissioning Committee will report to the CCG Governing Body and will continue to meet in public. The committee will have a CCG Lay Member as the Chair and a CCG Lay Member as Vice Chair and have an executive (non-medical) majority. A register of interests is maintained and potential or actual conflicts of interest will continue to be managed by the committee Chair, with advice as necessary e.g. from the CCG Conflicts of Interest Guardian.
7. The Committee terms of reference (ToR) are based on the national template, provided by NHS England. The draft committee ToR have been considered by the current Primary Care Joint Committee and by the CCG Governing Body at meetings held in public. The draft Terms of Reference are attached as an appendix, for information.

8. The representatives of Healthwatch and of the Health and Wellbeing / Wellbeing for Life Board will continue to be invited, in a non-voting capacity, to Primary Care Commissioning Committee meetings held both in public and private. A representative of NHS England will also be in attendance at all meetings.
9. The proposed committee terms of reference as attached are to be presented to the CCG Governing Body at its meeting on 28 March 2017 for formal ratification.

Recommendations

10. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the revised local arrangements for commissioning primary care medical services from April 2017 and the continued role of the health and wellbeing board representative on the Newcastle Gateshead Primary Care Commissioning Committee.

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