

Proposed NHS England CCG Assurance Framework

Governing Body meeting

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6 June 2013

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Key messages	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to the publication in, December 2012 of <i>The NHS Mandate and Everyone Counts: Planning for Patients 2013/14</i>, NHS England have now released details of the proposed 2013/14 Assurance Framework for CCGs. • This paper provides an overview of the of the proposed outline process and the interim arrangements to be put in place pending agreement of the definitive framework 	
Assurance Framework (AF)	
<p>Risk Reference (RR) Number : 95 (2012/13)</p> <p>How does this paper provide assurance to the Governing Body that the risk is being addressed? Provides assurance that national requirements for CCG performance, organisational health and delivery of improved health outcomes are understood and being actioned.</p> <p>Is this an existing or additional control :</p> <p>This relates to existing controls 2.1.2A (2012/13) - but with reference to planning for 2013/14.</p>	
Equality/Diversity Impact	
<p>Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken? NO</p> <p>Which of the 9 Protected Characteristics does it have an impact on? None</p>	
Public and Patient Engagement	
None	
Recommendations	
The Governing Body is asked to note the key elements of the proposed CCG Assurance Framework and the associated implications and actions set out in section 5 of this paper.	

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1. Introduction / Background

Further to the publication in, December 2012 of *The NHS Mandate* and *Everyone Counts: Planning for Patients 2013/14*, NHS England have now released details of the proposed 2013/14 Assurance Framework for CCGs. (<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ccg-af.pdf>)

The proposed framework is designed to give assurance that CCGs are

- delivering quality and outcomes for patients, both locally against their plans to improve services and deliver better outcomes for patients, and also as part of national standards
- continuously improving from the start point of authorisation

The proposals will be discussed with CCGs and other key stakeholders over the next few months, following which a definitive framework will be published in autumn 2013.

This paper provides an overview of the proposed outline process and the interim arrangements to be put in place pending agreement of the definitive framework.

2. Core Elements of CCG Assurance

Core Element	Description	Proposed Process
Delivery	Delivery of outcomes, standards (local and national) and financial allocations, agreed in the CCG plan.	Quarterly checkpoints of delivery against plan.
Capability	Ensuring the CCG has the skills, knowledge and appropriate behaviours to serve patients and communities effectively, now and in the future.	Annual assessment building on the CCG Authorisation process.
Support	Determining then nature and level of support a CCG needs to be a great commissioner.	Informal on-going support from NHS England. Use of statutory powers to in any cases of serious concern.

3. Quarterly Checkpoint Process

These quarterly assurance discussions will take place on the basis of a balanced scorecard based on an agreed set of data from the information that CCGs publish locally as part of their accountability to their local population.

The five dimensions of the proposed 'scorecard', with additional supporting commentary, are set out in Appendix A.

Additionally, as part of discussing the proposed assurance framework with CCGs and other stakeholders', NHS England is planning to seek views on the including the following information related elements in the 'scorecard':-

- Use of NHS number by providers
- Digitisation of care records in secondary care
- Metrics derived from complaints data
- Patient access to online primary care services

The rationale for is that CCGs need to be ensuring that information is appropriately used to drive change.

4. Interim process

Whilst the definitive assurance framework is being confirmed, quarterly checkpoint meetings will take place in July and October using the proposed framework.

5. Implications for Sheffield CCG Monitoring & Reporting Processes

Dimension	Implications / Planned actions
Are local people getting good quality care?	The required measures include some which are not currently reported externally e.g. in public facing document such as the Governing Body report. Action taken: potential wider reporting of these measures in line with the NHS England proposed approach is being considered by the Deputy Director of Standards.
Are patient rights under the NHS Constitution being promoted?	NHS Constitution measures are already tracked and reported in the monthly Governing Body report.
Are health outcomes improving for local people?	Required measures are being tracked as part of Quality Premium Dashboard and reported in the monthly Governing Body report
Are CCGs commissioning services within their financial allocations?	It has been confirmed with CCG Director of Finance that the required measures are included in existing financial reporting. However, Sheffield has agreed with NHS England a lower surplus (0.5%) than the national standard (1%). So this indicator will technically show as Amber unless a change to the threshold used for reporting is agreed.

6. Recommendation

The Governing Body is asked to note the key elements of the proposed CCG Assurance Framework and the associated implications and actions set out in section 5.

Paper prepared by: Julie Glossop, Senior Commissioning and Performance Manager

On behalf of Idris Griffiths, Chief Operating Officer

22 May 2013

Appendix A

NHS England Proposal for a CCG Balanced Scorecard

Dimension	Rating	Comment / further detail
Are local people getting good quality care?	Green / Amber-Green / Amber-Red / Red	To reflect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> elements from regulatory frameworks – CQC, Monitor etc. assessment of each provider where CCG commissioning > 5% of provider income <p>Inclusion of primary care quality is under consideration.</p>
Are patient rights under the NHS Constitution being promoted?	Green / Amber-Green / Amber-Red / Red	CCGs to ensure all providers deliver to the NHS Constitution standards.
Are health outcomes improving for local people?	Green / Amber-Green / Amber-Red / Red	Quarterly checkpoint based on a subset of Quality Premium measures:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> combined measure re. unplanned hospitalisations and emergency admissions Friends and Family Test Incidence of i) MRSA ii) C-difficile IAPT coverage
Are CCGs commissioning services within their financial allocations?	Green / Amber-Green / Amber-Red / Red	As per agreed CCG plan submitted to NHS England, in response to <i>Everyone Counts: Planning for Patients 2013/14</i> .
Are conditions of CCG authorisation being addressed and removed (where relevant)?		Not relevant for Sheffield CCG as we were authorised with no conditions.