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To: Adult Social Services Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee –
12 January 2011

Subject: **UPDATE ON NHS CHANGES**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report providing an update on NHS changes and related policy matters

Introduction

1. (1) On 12 July 2010, Andrew Lansley, Secretary of State for Health published the White Paper “Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS” which set out details of the transformation of the NHS. The Government’s ambition for the reform of health and social care is far reaching and points toward a period of major change for the health service. The document is available on:
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117353

Implications

2. (1) The key proposals of the NHS White Paper are:
- To phase out PCTs (which will cease to exist in 2013) and SHAs (abolished as statutory bodies 2012-13). The Government will transfer PCT Health improvement functions to Local Authorities (LAs).
 - Devolve power and responsibility for commissioning services to GPs and practice teams working in consortia
 - LAs to take on the function of joining up commissioning local NHS services, social care and health improvement through the establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Board. The patient’s voice will be heard through local Health Watch, which will replace LINKs.
 - As part of the Health and Wellbeing Boards remit LAs will be responsible for leading Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA). These arrangements will give LAs influence over NHS commissioning and corresponding influence for NHS commissioners in relation to public health and social care.
 - Greater joint health and social care integration by streamlining care pathways and introducing initiatives such as joint health and social care personal budgets
- (2) The White Paper was supported by six ancillary documents:
1. Commissioning for Patients
Seeking views on how the new system of GP Consortia and the NHS Commissioning Board will work in practice

2. Increasing Democratic Legitimacy

Seeking views on strengthening local partnerships between NHS commissioners and Local Authorities (LA)

3. The Arm's Length Body Review

Seeking views on changes to a range of our supporting organisations eg The Health protection Agency and National Treatment Agency and The National Research Ethics Service

4. Freeing Providers and Economic Regulation

Seeking views on how best to give real freedoms to hospitals and community services and on a new system of regulation

5. The NHS Outcomes Framework

Seeking views on a new framework to establish improving quality and healthcare outcomes as the primary purpose of all NHS funded care

6. Achieving Equity and Excellence for Children

Seeking views on how to ensure high-quality services for children and young people.

(3) *A KCC cross-directorate group was set up to draft a response to the White Paper and ancillary documents. Representatives from KASS, KPHD, CFE, DAAT and Corporate met on 17 September to review all final consultation responses. A response was submitted to the Department of Health (DH) on 11 October 2010. The document included a caveat that supplementary comments were to follow, due to the public Cabinet meeting taking place on the 14 October. The response is attached as Appendix 1. The government published 'Liberating the NHS: Legislative Framework and Next Steps' having considered the consultation responses on 15 December. It is available on: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/LiberatingtheNHS/DH_122624*

3. (1) Since October two further White Paper ancillary documents have been published. A description of each is below:

- **An Information Revolution: a consultation on proposals** - An Information Revolution is part of the Government's agenda to create a revolution for patients - "putting patients first" - giving people more information and control and greater choice about their care. Officers are preparing a response, led by Steph Abbot (Head of Performance and Information Management – KASS) with support from the cross-directorate working group, which will be submitted by the closing date of 14 January 2011.
- **Liberating the NHS: Greater choice and control. A consultation on proposals** - The White Paper set out proposals to extend greater choice and control over care and treatment, choice of treatment. and healthcare provider becoming the reality in the vast majority of NHS-funded services by no later than 2013/14. Officers are preparing a response, led by Janice Grant (Senior Policy Manager – KASS) which will be submitted by the closing date of 14 January 2011.

4. (1) On 16 November the Government also published two documents on the outcomes framework and vision for social care.

(2) A description of each is set out below:

- **Transparency in Outcomes: a framework for adult social care. A consultation on proposals** - This consultation sets out the new strategic approach to quality and outcomes in adult social care. The consultation envisages an enabling framework which places outcomes at the heart of social care, improves quality in services, and empowers citizens to hold their councils to account for the services they provide. The next stage will be co-produced with partners, based on responses to this consultation. Officers are preparing a response, led by Steph Abbott (Head of Performance and Information Management – KASS) which will be submitted by the closing date of 9 February 2011.
- **A Vision for Adult Social Care: Capable Communities and Active Citizens** - The Vision sets out how the Government wishes to see services delivered for people; a new direction for adult social care, putting personalised services and outcomes centre stage. Officers are preparing a response, led by Janice Grant (Senior Policy Manager – KASS) which will be submitted by the closing date of 9 February 2011.

5. (1) On 30 November the Government also published the White Paper, '**Healthy Lives, Healthy People: a consultation on proposals**'.

(2) The plans set out in the White Paper put local communities at the heart of public health. It outlines the Government's commitment to protecting the population from serious health threats; helping people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improving the health of the poorest, fastest. It includes the response to the Marmot report 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives' and adopts its life course framework for tackling the wider social determinants of health. It complements 'A Vision for Adult Social Care: Capable Communities and Active Citizens' and builds on the principles of 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'.

- Local authorities will be given the freedom, responsibility and funding to innovate and develop their own ways of improving public health in their area
- LAs will receive financial incentives for improving health and reducing health inequalities
- Introduction of a dedicated new public health service – Public Health England – to support local innovation, help provide disease control and protection and spread information on the latest innovations from around the world.
- Industry and partners to take responsibility for the promotion of healthy living
- Introduction of new practices and technologies to incentivise people to be more active

(3) Officers are preparing a response, led by Meradin Peachey (Kent Director of Public Health) which will be submitted by the closing date of 8 March 2011.

6. (1) On 3 November 2010, at the National Children's and Adult Social Services conference in Manchester, leaders across the social care sector launched a draft partnership agreement: **Think Local, Act Personal**.

(2) The agreement recommends how councils, health bodies and providers need to work more efficiently to personalise and integrate service delivery across health and adult social care. This is a proposed sector-wide partnership agreement to see direction of travel in the changing financial circumstances facing the country while moving forward with personalisation and community-based support. There is full engagement from social care providers in delivering the agreement.

(3) The Government's vision for adult social care and its White Paper *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*, maintain the drive towards the personalisation of public services in health, social care and beyond. The key delivery partners across the sector share this ambition, alongside those who use social care support, their families and carers, and the paid staff vital to delivering it. The Think Local Act Personal Partnership Agreement represents a joint commitment to go forward together.

(4) The agreement:

- Underlines the necessary connection between preventative, community-based approaches and personalised care and support.
- Provides a general framework for action; supported in the next few months by examples to assist partners in benchmarking progress, and by co-designed tools to aid delivery.

(5) In bringing together health, well-being and social care, councils and their partners will need to:

- Integrate health and social care commissioning around agreed outcomes
- Integrate health and social care processes, systems and resources
- Work closely with private and social housing Providers
- Engage with local networks, community associations and assets
- Make and sustain evidence-based investments, which maximise existing community capacity, reduce demand and enhance well-being through primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.
- Develop and facilitate workforce skills and activity
- Make public information accessible and fully available to all.
- Find better ways of gathering and utilising market intelligence
- Fully engage people who use services and their carers and families in commissioning and service development.
- Review council operating systems

(6) The final agreement will be published in the new year.

Proposals

7 (1) KCC will continue to work together to support cross-directorate responses, with input from senior officers and members. KCC are actively engaging with PCT and SHA colleagues to ensure the smooth transition of services. KCC is fully engaged in the Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) programme in Kent and Medway, which is the mechanism for delivering the transformation within the NHS to deliver cash releasing efficiency savings. Through active engagement with partners and alignment of the priorities set out in the White Paper and supporting documents, KCC seeks to lead the successful transition of health and social care with PCT partners by proactively recognising and mitigating any risks and instigating the development and delivery of areas of joint opportunity.

Recommendations

8 (1) Members of the Adult Social Services Policy and Overview Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the contents of this report.

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Background documents: None