

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)**

**Date: 30 October 2013**

**Subject: NHS England: Call to Action**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: 10.4.3	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

- On 11 July 2013, NHS England published 'The NHS belongs to the people: a call to action'. The stated aim of the publication was to stimulate a national debate about the future shape of the NHS. About a month later, on 14 August 2013, NHS England also launched its review of the current primary care system – specifically aimed at considering the future of primary care and how best to develop general practice services
- Both 'call to action' workstreams were launched with significant emphasis on the need to engage with the public, local communities and other key stakeholders. Details on the NHS England website include the following statements:

*'NHS England along with other national partner organisations will be providing support to local GPs, charities and patient groups to hold meetings to discuss these issues. These meetings will provide the mechanism for patients and the public to have a genuine say in how the NHS of the future will look.'*

*'The main purpose of 'Improving general practice – a call to action' is to stimulate debate in local communities – amongst GP practices, area teams, CCGs, health and wellbeing boards and other community partners – as to how best to develop general practice services.'*

- At its recent meeting, Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board considered a report on the 'Call to Action' presented by the Director of NHS England's West Yorkshire Area Team. A copy of the report and the 'Call to Action' publication is appended to this report.
- Given the importance of discussions around the future shape of NHS services, outside of the meeting cycle, the Chair of the Scrutiny Board has written to the Director of NHS

England's West Yorkshire Area Team, seeking clarification of the work undertaken with the sub-region (i.e. West Yorkshire) and specifically in the Leeds area.

5. It information on the NHS England website suggests that details are being drawn together to stimulate debate about NHS England's strategic approach for the commissioning of primary dental services, pharmacy services and eye care services. The Chair of the Scrutiny Board has sought an update on this work alongside details of when such information is likely to be available.
6. A copy of the Chair's letter, which also seeks comment from NHS England on its relationship with local authority scrutiny bodies, is appended to this report.
7. A copy of the letter has also been passed to the following stakeholders, seeking information regarding current levels of engagement around the 'Call to Action':
  - Leeds' Health and Wellbeing Board
  - Leeds' Clinical Commissioning Groups
  - Leeds' Local Medical Committee
  - HealthWatch Leeds
8. Any feedback received will be shared with the Scrutiny Board.
9. It should also be noted that, quite separately, on 10 October 2013 the Chief Executive of NHS England wrote to all NHS commissioners making specific reference to the 'Call to Action' workstreams. A copy of that letter is also appended to this report.

## **Recommendations**

10. The Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) is asked to consider the information presented and discussed at the meeting and determine what, if any, further action it wishes to take.

## **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

11. None used

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.