



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care)

Date: 24 March 2015

Subject: Investing in Specialised Commissioning – public consultation

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: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. In January 2015, NHS England launched a 3-month public consultation about how it will prioritise investment in specialised services and treatments in the future.
2. Currently, NHS England directly commissions around 145 specialised services and in order to ensure the maximum number of patients benefit from new innovative treatments coming on stream, choices need to be made about which of these to fund.
3. In carrying out the public consultation, NHS England aims to ensure the principles and process for making future funding decisions are well informed, evidence-led and in line with the expectations of patients and the public.
4. The consultation relates to the process for prioritising specialist treatments and services that will be routinely available for groups of patients on the NHS. It should be noted that clinicians, on behalf of their patients, will continue to be able to make a request (an Individual Funding Request) to NHS England for treatment that is not routinely available.
5. In addition, it should be noted that at the time of the launch of this consultation NHS England stated it was also undertaking an engagement exercise to seek views on which specialised services should be prioritised for 'service reviews' as part of a rolling programme of reviewing how each specialised service is delivered. As part of this process NHS England planned to write to all providers of specialised services, Clinical Reference Groups and associated patient groups to seek their views on where to concentrate efforts over next 12 – 24 months. At the time of writing this report, the outcome of such engagement activity is not yet known.

6. Nonetheless, the primary purpose of this report is to help members consider the consultation on prioritising investment in specialised services. The full consultation document is appended to this report.
7. Representatives from NHS England, local CCGs and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust have been invited to attend the meeting.
8. The consultation was launched in late January 2015 and will close on 27 April 2015 and the Scrutiny Board is asked to consider how it may wish to respond to this consultation ahead of the deadline.

Recommendations

9. The Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) is asked to:
 - a. Consider the information presented and identify how it may wish to respond to the consultation around Investing in Specialised Commissioning ahead of the 27 April 2015 deadline.
 - b. Identify any specific matters that warrant further scrutiny activity and/or additional action.

Background papers¹

10. None used

¹ 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.