

A monthly bulletin to keep you up to date with developments in commissioning; produced by the North West Primary Care Librarians Group

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Local healthcare commissioning: grassroots involvement? : a survey of local advocacy groups

This report reveals that many patients feel local healthcare commissioning, the process intended to ensure health and care services effectively meet the needs of the local population by engaging with

patient representatives, is not working effectively. It also identifies specialist nurses as the best placed healthcare professionals to make the commissioning process a success.

Published February 2009, 52 pages
<http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=65299>

Working better together? Managing local strategic partnerships

The Audit Commission national study 'Working better together? Managing local strategic partnerships' reviews arrangements for performance, resource management, and governance. The report identifies LSPs as evolving and maturing, local and national partners still need to recognise the key dynamics that support partnership working. Too few LSPs take an area-wide approach to

performance and resource management. Some LSPs have well developed performance arrangements, but less developed resource management. And most LSPs have progress to make on their improvement journey if they are to deliver sustainable community strategy and LAA outcomes. LSPs that have good, shared systems for performance management (with performance reporting, resource allocation, and risk

management) will find it easier to show that they are on track to achieve agreed outcomes than those that do not.

Published April 2009,
<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/reports/NATIONAL-REPORT.asp?CategoryID=ENGLISH^574&ProdID=05744773-42C2-4ba3-A945-6737715CDF2D>

The future of Community Health Services

The Department of Health requires primary care trusts (PCTs) to lay out a strategic vision and organisational options for the community health services that they currently manage. This provides PCTs with an opportunity to address many years of neglect in these services and to prepare for the growing health care needs of a population that is ageing and has rising rates of chronic

disease. The Kings Fund Report [Shaping PCT Provider Services: The future for community health](#), published in April 2009, draws on a range of evidence about community services and health care service development. It aims to help PCTs to develop a service and organisational strategy that addresses key performance issues as well as

to configure services to meet the changing needs of their local population.

Published April 2009, 56 pages
http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/research/projects/the_future_of_community_health_services/findings.html

Services for adults with autistic spectrum conditions

This good practice advice for PCT and local authority commissioners builds on Better Services for People with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder and is part of a programme of work to ensure that people with autistic spectrum conditions receive the right support to live life independently and to the full, exercising choice and control over decisions that affect their lives.

Published 2009, 26 pages

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_097418

Quality of Care in General Practice

The quality of services provided by family doctors and other staff in general practice in England will come under the microscope following the announcement today of a major 18-month inquiry from The King's Fund. The inquiry comes at a key time in the reform of general practice and will examine and collect evidence on the quality of care provided to patients. Despite the introduction of the Quality and Outcomes Framework that has provided incentives to general practice to improve the quality of patient care through performance-related pay, the majority of the focus on quality has been concentrated on hospital services rather than general practice.

Published April 2009

http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/what_we_do/press/gp_inquiry_press.html

Welcome to the NHS Cancer Commissioning Toolkit

This site is aimed at supporting World-class Commissioning of cancer services across the NHS by making information on cancer care in England freely available. It includes a range of high-level indicators, as well as a number of links to more detailed information, right across the patient's journey: from prevention and screening through referral and treatment to living with and beyond cancer, as well as end of life care.

<https://www.cancertoolkit.co.uk/PublicPages/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fDefault.aspx&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

A new commercial operating model

The new Commercial Operating Model will further enhance commercial and procurement skills across the NHS in helping to deliver high quality and personalised care for patients.

Published May 2009, 20 pages

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_098876

Basic guidelines for people who commission Easy Read information

The purpose of this document is to provide a set of basic guidelines for people commissioning information in Easy Read aimed at people with learning disabilities.

Published April 2009, 13 pages

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_097667

Other documents and conferences

Conference: World Class Commissioning: effectively managing the market

http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/learn/conferences_and_seminars/world_class.html

Vascular Programme briefing packs

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_098627