

**NHS NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK  
BOARD MEETING**



**North Yorkshire and York**

**Meeting Date: 28 June 2011**

**Report's Sponsoring Director:**

Sue Metcalfe  
Deputy Chief Executive and Director of  
Localities

**Report Author:**

Judith Knapton  
Head of Commissioning (Adult and Community  
Services)

**1. Title of Paper: Commissioning of Voluntary Services**

**2. Strategic Objectives supported by this paper:**

- To commission high quality safe effective patient care, seeking to improve the quality of care wherever possible and including delivery of all key standards.
- To ensure the PCT delivers a clinically and financially sustainable healthcare system through the delivery of the QIPP to meet the needs of the people of North Yorkshire and York.
- To reduce inequalities in health and improve the health outcomes and wellbeing of the people of North Yorkshire and York.

**3. Executive Summary**

In order to ensure sustainability for the voluntary sector and value for money, the Board agreed a review of the voluntary sector and application of national efficiency target of 4%.

The Board paper outlines the results of the review and proposals from October 2011 to March 2013.

**4. Risks relating to proposals in this paper**

Possibility of adverse publicity where changes to the funding agreements are necessary.

**5. Summary of any finance / resource implications**

4% efficiency saving in line with national requirements.

Resource intensive (staff hours) for the time between June and October 2011.

## **6. Any statutory / regulatory / legal / NHS Constitution implications**

The PCT will uphold any legally binding contract agreements with the voluntary sector.

## **7. Equality Impact Assessment**

Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and mitigating actions will be taken to lessen any adverse effects of actions taken to achieve the efficiency saving.

## **8. Any related work with stakeholders or communications plan**

Letters will be sent out to the voluntary sector organisations outlining the funding situation for each service.

Discussions will continue to ensure funding agreements and contracts are developed with clear service specifications for those funded from October 2011.

Communication will be sent to Local Authorities and stakeholder groups such as Older Peoples Partnership Boards.

## **9. Recommendations / Action Required**

The Board is asked to support the process for achieving the efficiency savings required for 2011/12 and the refocus of funding to priority service areas.

## **10. Assurance**

An update outlining the progress of negotiations for the development and implementation of service specifications for the voluntary sector can be brought back to the Board if required.

For further information please contact:

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# **NHS NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK**

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## **Commissioning of Voluntary Sector Services**

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 NHS North Yorkshire and York (NHS NYY) agreed at the March Board meeting to a review of voluntary sector services that are funded by NHS NYY with the aim to:

- Focus the funding of voluntary sector services to support the PCT Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) plan.
- Fund services with service specifications that include clear outcomes
- To provide more equitable services across North Yorkshire and York
- To make the commissioning and monitoring of services more efficient and effective
- Ensure services provide value for money
- Work within budgetary requirements including an efficiency requirement of 4%.

1.2 NHS NYY staff have met with many services to gather information on the quality, equity and effectiveness of the service provision.

### **2. Partnership Working**

2.1 Many of the services are jointly funded with North Yorkshire County Council. NHS NYY is working closely with the Council to ensure a joint approach to decision making due to the interdependence the organisations have on the statutory support provided by both organisations.

2.2 Communication has also taken place directly with the organisations concerned and with the sector generally via the third sector Forums.

### **3. Essential Services**

3.1 In agreement with partners in North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council, NHS NYY have identified specific services that are essential in supporting the growing elderly population and changing demographics for North Yorkshire and York. These include:

- REACT (North Yorkshire) and Age UK York
- Advocacy Services (all generic services)
- Alzheimer's Society (all branches across North Yorkshire and York)
- Carers Resource Services/Centres for Adults Carers services
- Carers Resource Services/Centres for Services for Children who are carers

Service specifications have been developed and agreed with these specific services. Service specifications are still to be written for other services such as Carers Respite, however these services will maintain current levels of funding but will need to demonstrate how they can make efficiencies in order to support the increasing demands on services.

#### **4. Principles of Decision Making**

4.1 The following principles formed the basis of funding decisions for continuation, reduction or cessation:

- Does the service support the Integrated Community Services Quality Innovation Prevention Productivity (QIPP) plan?
- Does the service support those at risk of hospitalisation or loss of independence?
- Is there equitable provision across NHS NYY as far as possible?
- Is there equity of access irrespective of belief, ethnicity, sexual orientation or cultural background?
- Is the service cost effective in maximising volume and quality within the available resources?
- Does the service deliver the desired outcomes?
- Are there other PCT funding streams available for the same service?
- Is there duplication of provision?
- Will it give added value? Can the organisation demonstrate that partnership approaches are being taken?
- Does the service demonstrate reciprocity and mutual support and empowerment?
- Impact to front line services to be minimised.
- Does it support NHS NYY core business?

Infrastructure Organisations are only funded to provide infrastructure support and Volunteer Centres and not direct service provision to eliminate conflict of interest, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

#### **5. Proposals for 2011/12**

5.1 The outcome of the review has shown that after careful consideration of the data and information gathered, and assessment against the principles of decision making, the following recommendations are proposed.

5.2 Essential services as detailed in paragraph 3.1 are funded to a level that ensures effective delivery of the service specifications across North Yorkshire and York as far as possible. Other services that will maintain same levels of funding are:

- Craven Cancer Support Group
- Harrogate Cancer Support Group
- Other Mental Health services
- Drug and Alcohol Services

5.3 The following services are to continue with a 4% efficiency saving (as notified in March 2011) but further assessment and consideration of equitable provision is required to ensure there is no duplication of services and provision is focussed on the areas of greatest health need. These services are:

- Homestart York
- NSPCC
- Selby District Vision
- Resource Centre for Deafened People
- York Blind and partially sighted
- The Stroke Association
- Pioneer Projects
- Sherburn Visiting Scheme
- St Johns Centre
- North Yorkshire Aids Action
- Cambridge Centre
- Most Counselling services (as part of a wider review of counselling services)

5.4 The outcome of the review has shown that the following services do not support the principles outlined above. It is recommended that those services cease to be funded from October 2011 in order to meet the efficiency saving as required and to refocus the remaining funding to support the priority areas.

The services to be notified immediately are:

- Ripon CVS – Boroughbridge Project and Kirby Malzeard Project
- Seachange – Self Help Groups
- Thirsk Community Care Association – Holiday childcare for disabled children aged 0 – 18 years
- Harrogate CVS – Talking Space Service
- Craven CAB
- Harrogate CAB
- Whitby Disablement Action Group
- Scarborough Disablement Action Group
- British Red Cross
- Yorkshire Housing Foundation – Home repairs and adaptations
- Broadacres – Home repairs and adaptations

- 5.5 Transport services also have to achieve the 4% efficiency saving as notified by letter in March 2011, while a review of all patient transport services is undertaken.
- 5.6 MESMAC to receive a reduced level of funding whilst work is undertaken to ensure a service specification is developed to focus the services on the areas of greatest need and maximise value for money.
- 5.7 Negotiations continue with the Infrastructure organisations across North Yorkshire in partnership with NYCC to establish one North Yorkshire wide Infrastructure Support Service and one Volunteer Service. It is hoped that agreement can be reached, however if not then a procurement exercise will commence to be in place from April 2012.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment and Risks**

An equality impact assessment has been completed and an action plan developed to mitigate the effects these changes may have as far as is possible.

Any impact on statutory services will be carefully monitored.

## **7. Communication**

- 7.1 Letters will be sent to all those voluntary sector organisations listed above to explain the decisions made affecting their organisation.
- 7.2 Briefings will be sent to partners and key stakeholders.
- 7.3 Discussions need to take place with GP Commissioning Consortium to improve understanding of the services commissioned from the voluntary sector and the added value the sector have in the care and support of vulnerable people in the community.

## **8. Recommendation**

The Board is asked to support the process for achieving the efficiency savings required for 2011/12 and the refocus of funding to priority service areas.