



HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

4.00PM, TUESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2016

AUDITORIUM - THE BRIGHTELM CENTRE



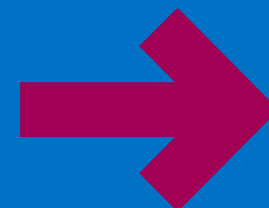
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ITEM	Page
Papers for Discussion at the Health & Wellbeing Board	
53	PERSONAL MEDICAL SERVICES GP CONTRACT REVIEW
Presentation given by NHS England (copy attached). Copies of the patient letter and letter to stakeholders issued by NHS England and referred to in the report included in the agenda papers (copies attached).	

Supporting sustainable GP services

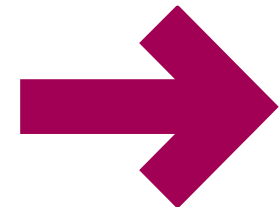
Addressing the current challenges

2 February 2016



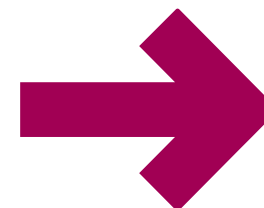
The key issues and challenges facing General Practice

- How to care for an ageing population and an increasing number of patients with complex care needs and long term conditions
- Significant workforce issues
- Infrastructure
- Complex operating environment
- Greater professional and organisational accountability including CQC registration and inspection process



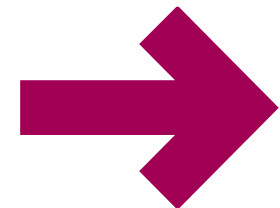
How these issues and challenges are manifesting

- Many practices are struggling to recruit to vacant partnership and salaried positions
- Some practices do not have the operational capacity to register new patients
- Some practices are closing branch surgeries and are looking to consolidate services on fewer sites
- Some practices are merging and coming together
- Some practices are handing back their contracts.



What is being done about this?

- National programmes to stabilise GP practices and support GPs
- Fairer and more secure funding
- 10 point plan around workforce
- Primary Care Transformation Fund – investment in premises & IT
- New models of care; 5 Year Forward View and pilots
- Shift towards Place Based Services – integration and localism, including movement towards co-commissioning.



Personal Medical Services Review

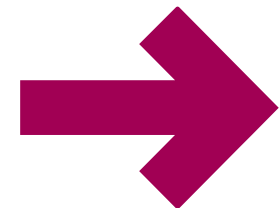
Review of PMS Agreements

2 February 2016



About the PMS review

- Forms part of the wider approach to equitable funding of GP practices.
- Personal Medical Services (PMS) contracts provide additional funding to GP practices above the standard national General Medical Services (GMS) contract.
- PMS contracts and the services and the funding attached to them are negotiated locally. However this extra investment has historically not always been clearly linked to extra or higher quality patient services.
- Where GP practices are receiving extra funding per patient, this has to be fairly and transparently linked to the quality of care they provide in meeting the diverse needs of the local community in accordance with our legal obligation to address health inequalities.



About the PMS review

- Nationally PMS expenditure (as of April 2013) was £325m in excess of GMS equivalent or £13.52 per weighted patient. (“The PMS premium”)
- Only £67m was linked to extra services or Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The remaining £258m was not clearly defined.
- We need to ensure every GP practice is paid equitably for the services they provide to patients, regardless of contract type, and gives value for money.
- All PMS contracts are being reviewed across NHS England to ensure we make the best possible use of NHS resources and where any funding is not being used to maximum effect, it is to be reinvested into other GP services in the local area.
- This represents a redistribution of resources based on the principles of fairness and meeting patient need across the totality of GMS and PMS contracts. There will be no reduction in the overall level of GP funding in each area as a result of this review.



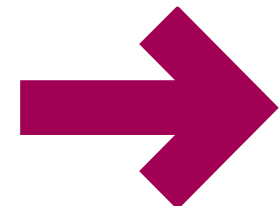
In the South East

- The difference in funding between GMS and PMS practices across the South East equates to £9.9m as of April 2015 but will reduce through national increases to GMS “core” funding, so that by April 2020 this difference will be reduced to £6.6m if we do nothing.
- We wrote to all PMS practices (there are 135 PMS contractors in the South East) asking them to provide information on any additional and ‘non core’ services they provide and any other factors or special populations they serve which they would like to be considered as part of the review.
- This information is being used to consider each contract on a case-by-case basis and discussions with local GP practices are ongoing as part of the review in the South East. As part of the review process we have also had discussions with CCGs and representatives of the Local Medical Committees to provide local input into the review.
- We have now extended existing PMS contracts for a further three month period to the end of June 2016 as there has been a delay in receiving the information required in some cases. The extension to the timetable will allow sufficient time to fully consider each case in order to reach the best solutions we can for patients.



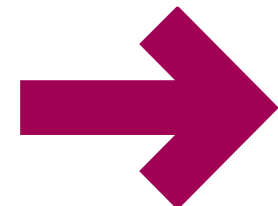
In the South East

- We recognise the need to manage the pace of change to best balance any reinvestment of funding with the need to manage this in a way that doesn't adversely impact on practices and patients.
- As part of the local PMS review, any decisions made to reallocate funding to other local services will be introduced in a phased way over a transitional 4 year period, so as not to destabilise practices
- Any funds released by the removal of PMS premium payments will be re-invested by CCGs in GP primary care services for the benefit of the wider local population.



In Brighton and Hove

- In Brighton and Hove, The Practice Group holds the only PMS contract.
- The group provides services across 5 GP surgeries .
- Across 4 of these GP surgeries, The Practice Group receive almost 20% over and above what other comparable local GP surgeries receive for the same services under the General Medical Services (GMS) contract. We were discussing this funding for the services provided by these four surgeries with the Practice Group.
- The Practice Group also provides a specific service to local homeless people at Morley Street. It is recognised this provides a valuable service to these patients.
- No decisions had been made about any future funding arrangements for these services at the point The Practice Group gave notice on their contract.
- Any proposed changes to these funding arrangements would have been subject to final agreement between us and the Practice Group.



Future care of patients

Ensuring ongoing care for patients who use The Practice Group surgeries



Current position

- The Practice Group gave notice to NHS England just before Christmas that they would be bringing their PMS contract to an end. We have subsequently informed patients and stakeholders of this.
- In response to the provider's decision, NHS England is working to identify alternative options to guarantee ongoing care for all affected patients before the current arrangements end.
- No decisions have yet been made about this. We need to carefully consider our options and seek the views of patients and stakeholders in advance of taking any commissioning decision.
- We are in ongoing discussions with The Practice Group to ensure that we have as much time as possible to secure ongoing care arrangements for patients before current arrangements come to an end.
- **Patients do not need to take any action at this point and can continue to receive care at their surgery as normal.**



Next steps

- We have written to affected patients advising them of the situation and to provide them with an opportunity to provide any feedback about arrangements for their future care
- We are working closely with NHS Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), existing local GP practices and the Local Medical Committee in considering the available options.
- This includes working to ensure the needs of any vulnerable patients continue to be met, including those who are homeless and who currently use services provided by the Practice Group.
- All feedback will be taken into account in reaching a final decision about how to ensure ongoing access to care for affected patients.
- We will update all patients as soon as we are in a position to do so

NHS England
18-20 Massetts Road
York House
Horley
RH6 7DE
england.primarycare.southeast@nhs.net
Tel: 01293 729298

13 January 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Changes affecting your care at [insert name and address of surgery]

I am writing to inform you of planned changes at [insert name of surgery].

What has happened?

The healthcare provider, The Practice Group, has informed NHS England that they wish to stop providing GP services at the surgery.

What should you do?

Please note that you do not have to take any action at this point. [insert name of surgery] will continue to provide services to you at the current time. We will write to update you as soon as possible about future arrangements for your care.

What are we doing about it?

Our priority is to make sure that you can continue to see a doctor when you need to. We are exploring the available options to achieve this but wanted to make sure you were informed straight away about the situation.

We are working to ensure we can give you as much notice as possible about the future arrangements for your care and will send you further information as soon as we are in a position to do so.

We may need to ask you to register with a new GP practice in order to make sure you can continue to get medical care when you need it, but no decisions have yet been made about this. You will be given as much notice and support as possible to register at a new GP practice if this is the case.

How can I give my views?

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to provide us with any feedback you wish to give about arrangements for your future care, including any issues you want us to consider in making a decision about this or any concerns you may have.

All feedback will be considered by NHS England in reaching a final decision about

how to ensure your ongoing care.

Please contact us with any feedback about your future care by Friday 19 February. You can contact us in the following ways:

Email: england.primarycare.southeast@nhs.net

Post: Primary Care Team
NHS England
18 – 20 Massetts Road
York House
Horley
RH6 7DE

Telephone: 01293 729298

What will happen next?

We will write to update you again as soon as we can, once we have taken into account all patient feedback, reviewed all options and have made a final decision.

We understand this may be an uncertain time for you and that you may be concerned about your ongoing care. Please be assured that we are exploring all options to make sure you can continue to get care from a doctor locally, when you need it in the future.

In the meantime if you have any queries about the process, you can contact us using the contact details above. If you have any queries about your individual care, please contact **[insert name of surgery]** direct.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Macdonald
Director of Commissioning
NHS England South (South East)

This information can be made available in formats such as easy read, or large print and may be available in alternative languages on request. Please contact NHS England on 01293 729298 or email england.primarycare.southeast@nhs.net, or speak to reception staff at the surgery.

Our Ref: SM/sm

NHS England
18-20 Massetts Road
York House
Horley
RH6 7DE

england.primarycare.southeast@nhs.net
Tel: 01293 729298

13 January 2016

Dear colleague,

Re: Provision of services by the Practice Group in Brighton and Hove

I am writing to inform you that the Practice Group has told NHS England that they wish to bring to an end current arrangements for them to provide GP services at five GP surgeries in Brighton and Hove.

The healthcare group currently manages services at the following GP surgeries:

- The Practice Whitehawk Road, Wellsbourne Health Centre (around 3,969 patients)
- The Practice Hangleton Manor, Northease Drive, Hove (recently placed into special measures (around 1,986 patients)
- The Practice North Street, c/o Boots, North Street, Brighton (around 2,134 patients)
- The Practice Willow House, Heath Hill Avenue, Lower Bevendean (around 1,977 patients)
- Brighton Homeless Healthcare, Morley Street, Brighton (around 1,354 patients)

In response to the provider's decision, NHS England is now working to identify alternative options to guarantee ongoing care for all affected patients before the current arrangements end.

We are currently in discussions with The Practice Group to ensure that we have as much time as possible to agree continued patient care. We will update patients with further information as soon as we are in a position to do so, but they do not need to take any action at this point and can continue to receive care at their surgery in the same way at the present time.

We are working closely with NHS Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to ensure that we consider any options which will ensure the delivery of continued and sustainable local GP services to all those patients affected. This includes working to ensure the needs any vulnerable patients continue to be met, including those who are homeless and who currently use services provided by the Practice Group.

We will be liaising with other local GP practices to determine their current individual capacity to register new patients, as well as assessing whether there is the opportunity to take a different approach in order to support the best possible long-term care for affected patients. No decisions have yet been made about this. We need to identify and assess all available options, but wanted to ensure patients and other members of the local community were informed straight away about these developments.

General practice services have a vital role to play in caring for people in our communities, but as you will be aware GP services across the country are currently facing a number of challenges. This includes workforce challenges, as well as the challenge of how to care for an ageing population and an increasing number of patients with complex care needs and long term conditions and the need to address variation in the quality and performance of different services.

We must therefore transform the way we deliver care to patients in order to meet these challenges and ensure that services deliver quality care, both now and in the future, and make the maximum use of NHS resources for the benefit of people in our local community.

At a local level, NHS England and NHS Brighton and Hove CCG are continuing to work closely together to address these challenges and to ensure the on-going development of sustainable local GP services.

We will therefore need to consider how we can ensure the long-term sustainability of services that will meet the needs of all patients (including any vulnerable patients) in determining how to guarantee ongoing care for those currently cared for by the Practice Group.

We appreciate that colleagues may be concerned about the provider's decision to end current arrangements for the provision of services at these surgeries, following the closure of Eaton Place Surgery and Goodwood Court Surgery last year. Please be assured that in responding to this development, we will ensure patients can continue to access local GP services, as we have done previously.

We are writing to all affected patients from each practice advising them of the situation and to provide them with an opportunity to provide any feedback about arrangements for their future care, including any specific concerns they may have or any issues they think we should be mindful of in reaching a decision about this. A copy of the patient letter is attached.

Your views

We would also like to invite you to provide any feedback you may have about this. Should you wish to comment please email england.primarycare.southeast@nhs.net by Friday 19 February, or write to the postal address above by so we can ensure your feedback is considered as part of the final decision making process.

All feedback from patients and other members of the local community will be taken

into account in reaching a final decision about how to ensure ongoing access to care for affected patients.

We will write to patients again as soon as we can, once we have completed our review and are in a position to confirm new care arrangements for them. We will also update you at this point.

We understand that this is an uncertain time for patients and that they may be concerned about their future access to local GP services.

We have reassured them that The Practice Group will continue to provide services to them while work takes place to determine alternative arrangements for their care.

In the meantime, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Macdonald." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sarah Macdonald
Director of Commissioning
NHS England South (South East)

