

Primary Care Commissioning Committee draft terms of reference

Draft terms of reference – NHS Vale of York CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee

Introduction

1. Simon Stevens, the Chief Executive of NHS England, announced on 1 May 2014 that NHS England was inviting CCGs to expand their role in primary care commissioning and to submit expressions of interest setting out the CCG's preference for how it would like to exercise expanded primary medical care commissioning functions. One option available was that NHS England would delegate the exercise of certain specified primary care commissioning functions to a CCG.
2. In accordance with its statutory powers under section 13Z of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended) (the "NHS Act"), NHS England has delegated the exercise of the functions specified in Schedule 2 to these Terms of Reference to NHS Vale of York CCG. The delegation is set out in Schedule 1.
3. The CCG has established the NHS Vale of York CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee will function as a corporate decision-making body for the management of the delegated functions and the exercise of the delegated powers.
4. It is a committee comprising representatives of the following organisations:
 - NHS Vale of York CCG
 - NHS England
 - Healthwatch
 - Health and Wellbeing Board(s)
 - Director of Public Health

Statutory Framework

5. NHS England has delegated to the CCG authority to exercise the primary care commissioning functions set out in Schedule 2 in accordance with section 13Z of the NHS Act.

6. Arrangements made under section 13Z may be on such terms and conditions (including terms as to payment) as may be agreed between the Board and the CCG.
7. Arrangements made under section 13Z do not affect the liability of NHS England for the exercise of any of its functions. However, the CCG acknowledges that in exercising its functions (including those delegated to it), it must comply with the statutory duties set out in Chapter A2 of the NHS Act and including:
 - a) Management of conflicts of interest (section 14O);
 - b) Duty to promote the NHS Constitution (section 14P);
 - c) Duty to exercise its functions effectively, efficiently and economically (section 14Q);
 - d) Duty as to improvement in quality of services (section 14R);
 - e) Duty in relation to quality of primary medical services (section 14S);
 - f) Duties as to reducing inequalities (section 14T);
 - g) Duty to promote the involvement of each patient (section 14U);
 - h) Duty as to patient choice (section 14V);
 - i) Duty as to promoting integration (section 14Z1);
 - j) Public involvement and consultation (section 14Z2).
8. The CCG will also need to specifically, in respect of the delegated functions from NHS England, exercise those in accordance with the relevant provisions of section 13 of the NHS Act
 - Duty to have regard to impact on services in certain areas (section 13O);
 - Duty as respects variation in provision of health services (section 13P).
9. The Committee is established as a committee of the Governing Body of NHS Vale of York CCG in accordance with Schedule 1A of the NHS Act.

10. The members acknowledge that the Committee is subject to any directions made by NHS England or by the Secretary of State.

Role of the Committee

11. The Committee has been established in accordance with the above statutory provisions to enable the members to make collective decisions on the review, planning and procurement of primary care services in the Vale of York area, under delegated authority from NHS England.
12. In performing its role the Committee will exercise its management of the functions in accordance with the agreement entered into between NHS England and NHS Vale of York CCG, which will sit alongside the delegation and terms of reference.
13. The functions of the Committee are undertaken in the context of a desire to promote increased co-commissioning to increase quality, efficiency, productivity and value for money and to remove administrative barriers.
14. The role of the Committee shall be to carry out the functions relating to the commissioning of primary medical services under section 83 of the NHS Act.
15. This includes the following:
 - GMS, PMS and APMS contracts (including the design of PMS and APMS contracts, monitoring of contracts, taking contractual action such as issuing branch/remedial notices, and removing a contract);
 - Newly designed enhanced services (“Local Enhanced Services” and “Directed Enhanced Services”);
 - Design of local incentive schemes as an alternative to the Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF);
 - Decision making on whether to establish new GP practices in an area;
 - Approving practice mergers; and
 - Making decisions on ‘discretionary’ payment (e.g., returner/retainer schemes).

16. The CCG will also carry out the following activities:

- a) To plan, including needs assessment, primary care services in the Vale of York CCG area;
- b) To undertake reviews of primary care services in Vale of York CCG area;
- c) To co-ordinate a common approach to the commissioning of primary care services generally;
- d) To manage the budget for commissioning of primary care services in Vale of York CCG area.

Geographical Coverage

17. The Committee will comprise the NHS Vale of York CCG area.

Membership

18. The Committee shall consist of:

Lay Chair of Governing Body (Chair)
Lay Chair of Audit Committee
Lay Chair of Finance and Performance Committee
Accountable Officer
Chief Finance Officer
Chief Nurse
Representative of NHS England
(voting members)

In attendance:

Two GPs from each locality
Chair of Clinical Executive
Director of Public Health
Healthwatch Representative
Health and Wellbeing Board Representative
Practice Manager
(non-voting)

19. The Chair of the Committee shall be the Lay Chair of the Governing Body.
20. The Vice Chair of the Committee shall be the Lay Chair of the Audit Committee.
21. The following standing attendees (non-voting) will be invited:
 - Healthwatch representative
 - Health and Wellbeing Board representative
 - Director of Public Health
 - Chair of the Clinical Executive
 - Two GPs from each locality
 - A Practice Manager

Meetings and Voting

22. The Committee will operate in accordance with the CCG's Standing Orders. The Executive Support to the Committee will be responsible for giving notice of meetings. This will be accompanied by an agenda and supporting papers and sent to each member representative no later than 5 working days before the date of the meeting. When the Chair of the Committee deems it necessary in light of the urgent circumstances to call a meeting at short notice, the notice period shall be such as s/he shall specify.
23. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote. The Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority of members present, but with the Chair having a second and deciding vote, if necessary. However, the aim of the Committee will be to achieve consensus decision-making wherever possible.

Quorum

24. The committee shall be quorate with the following attendance:

At least four members, one of which shall be a Lay Member and one a Chief Officer.

Frequency of meetings

25. The committee will meet six times a year with dates circulated to committee members in advance. Additional meetings may be convened at short notice if the Chair deems it necessary in accordance with paragraph 22 above.
26. Meetings of the Committee shall:
 - a) be held in public, subject to the application of 26(b);
 - b) the Committee may resolve to exclude the public from a meeting that is open to the public (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings or for any other reason permitted by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended or succeeded from time to time.
27. Members of the Committee have a collective responsibility for the operation of the Committee. They will participate in discussion, review evidence and provide objective expert input to the best of their knowledge and ability, and endeavour to reach a collective view.
28. The Committee may delegate tasks to such individuals, sub-committees or individual members as it shall see fit, provided that any such delegations are consistent with the parties' relevant governance arrangements, are recorded in a scheme of delegation, are governed by terms of reference as appropriate and reflect appropriate arrangements for the management of conflicts of interest. A Primary Care Commissioning Delivery Group will be established to ensure the delivery of arrangements agreed by the Committee.
29. The Committee may call additional experts to attend meetings on an ad hoc basis to inform discussions.
30. Members of the Committee shall respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the CCG's Constitution.
31. The Committee will present its minutes to the North (Yorkshire and Humber) area team of NHS England and the governing body of NHS Vale of York CCG

each quarter for information, including the minutes of any sub-committees to which responsibilities are delegated under paragraph 28 above.

32. The CCG will also comply with any reporting requirements set out in its constitution.
33. The Committee shall review its terms of reference at least annually. The Committee shall undertake a review of its effectiveness at least annually.

Links to other Committees and Groups

34. Due to the nature of integrated governance, the work of the Committee dovetails with some functions of the Audit Committee. Both Chairs will work collaboratively to ensure that where objectives align, their work will complement rather than duplicate effort, bringing their own perspectives to agenda items.

Accountability of the Committee

35. The Primary Care Commissioning Committee is a delegated committee of the Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body, and its powers are set out in the CCG's Constitution, including revised Standing Financial Instructions and Standing Orders.
36. For the avoidance of doubt, in the event of any conflict between the provisions of these Terms of Reference and the CCG's Standing Orders or Standing Financial Instructions, the latter will prevail.

Procurement of Agreed Services

37. The detailed arrangements for procurement of agreed services will follow the Standing Financial Instructions and Standing Orders of the Clinical Commissioning Group. These reflect the arrangements within the CCG's constitution and the delegation agreement with NHS England. The Committee will adhere to these arrangements.

Decisions

38. The Committee will make decisions within the bounds of its remit.
39. The decisions of the Committee shall be binding on NHS England and NHS Vale of York CCG.
40. The Committee will produce an executive summary report which will be presented to the North (Yorkshire and Humber) area team of NHS England and the governing body of NHS Vale of York CCG each quarter for information.

Conflicts of Interest

41. Conflicts of interest shall be managed in line with NHS Vale of York CCG Conflicts of Interest policy.

[Signature provisions]

Schedule 1 – Delegation

[Delegation from NHS England attached separately]

Schedule 2: Delegated Commissioning Functions

Delegated commissioning functions are as follows:

- GMS, PMS and APMS contracts (including the design of PMS and APMS contracts, monitoring of contracts, taking contractual action such as issuing branch/remedial notices, and removing a contract);
- Newly designed enhanced services (“Local Enhanced Services” and “Directed Enhanced Services”);
- Design of local incentive schemes as an alternative to the Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF);
- Decision making on whether to establish new GP practices in an area;
- Approving practice mergers; and
- Making decisions on ‘discretionary’ payment (e.g., returner/retainer schemes).

Delegated commissioning arrangements exclude individual GP performance management (medical performers’ list for GPs, appraisal and revalidation).