

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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Updated Child Health Promotion Programme

The new updated Child Health Promotion Programme (CHPP): 'Pregnancy and the first five years of life' has been launched. It builds on the NSF that was published in 2004 and is intended to provide services tailored to the individual needs of children and families, acting as a best practice guide for

health and social services. The CHPP is a valuable tool for supporting Commissioners to meet obligations on breastfeeding, obesity prevention, infant mortality and the 12-week antenatal assessment. This high quality programme will help meet these vital requirements, but also help to improve general

health and well-being among children and families in our communities.

(Published March 2008, 80 pages)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/DH_083645

Towards World Class Commissioning Competency

Towards World Class Commissioning Competency is a report produced for West Midlands Strategic Health Authority by the Health Services Management Centre, University of Birmingham.

This paper is intended to assist the thinking of those currently seeking answers to questions, such as: What are health care commissioners required to do? What knowledge, skills, attitudes

and behaviours are required to do it well? Who (either within or beyond the NHS) is most likely to possess these attributes at the moment? How should these capabilities be developed and distributed in future?

The paper concludes that a one-size-fits-all approach to defining and developing commissioning competency is unlikely to be optimal, and reiterates that competency depends not just on

knowledge and skills, but on values, motivation, and agency. This is an important message for those involved in commissioning at all levels of the system.

(Published December 2007, 24 pages)

<http://www.networks.nhs.uk/uploads/08/03/towardscommissioningcompetency.pdf>

Education Commissioning Briefing

The briefing paper contains information on subjects such as:

Data – what kind of information and intelligence to use that can help inform your education commissioning decisions (for example health needs assessments and demographics)

Funding – how education is

paid for and what sources of funding there are

Process – the formal, staged process of commissioning (rather than simply purchasing) education.

The briefing paper has been designed to provide information and support to education commissioners and

those colleagues who need to have an understanding of education commissioning.

http://www.healthcareworkforce.nhs.uk/resources/latest_resources/education_commissioning_briefing.html

National Dementia Strategy

The objectives of the project are to develop a national dementia strategy and implementation plan for publication in October 2008. The strategy will address three key themes – raising awareness, early diagnosis and intervention and improving the quality of care.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/SocialCare/Deliveringadultsocialcare/Olderpeople/NationalDementiaStrategy/index.htm>

More strategic, timely information needed in primary healthcare

One year after the publication of The Intelligent Practice, a recent survey carried out by Dr Foster Intelligence found that current primary care information provision is lacking in strategic vision.

Information provided by PCTs seems to be drawing mixed reviews. Asked to evaluate the overall quality, format and frequency, nearly half of respondents said that what they were receiving from their PCT was sufficient, although more than a quarter found the information insufficient.

<http://www.drfoosterintelligence.co.uk/newsPublications/article90.asp>

Putting you in the picture

Putting you in the picture is the first edition of the North West Specialised Commissioning Team's newsletter.

Intended primarily for colleagues in Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), this first edition outlines some of the team's key achievements since their formation in April 2007.

Many of the projects they were involved in are ongoing, and they will update you on progress in future newsletters.

(Published February 2008, 8 pages)

http://www.nwsct.nhs.uk/Docs/Newsletter/Newsletter_FEB_08.pdf

Choice at referral

Best practice guidance and information for referrers, providers and commissioners on how the roll-out of free choice in elective care in 2008/9 will operate.

(March 2008)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_083586

Refocusing the care programme approach: Policy and positive practice guidance

Following the national consultation, Reviewing the Care programme Approach (CPA), and having considered the issues identified, this guidance updates policy and sets out positive practice guidance for trusts and commissioners to review local practice to refocus CPA within mental health services.

(Published March 2008, 64 pages)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_083647

National Primary Care Research & Development Centre: Practice Based Commissioning

This study has three main aims.

- Establishing the rationale for the introduction of practice-based commissioning, will focus on the programme theory for the policy.
- Addressing how the scheme is being implemented.
- Investigating the outcomes from practice-based commissioning on local health economies.

<http://www.npcrdc.ac.uk/ResearchDetail.cfm?id=177>

Other documents and conferences

New Horizons for Mental Health Commissioning - An opportunity to help shape the agenda. 7th May 2008

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_083582

Report of a national review of NHS Health Library Services in England; Recommendation 33- The Commissioning process needs to be underpinned by knowledge

http://www.library.nhs.uk/nlhdocs/national_library_review_final_report_4feb_081.pdf