

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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Deed of variation for 2008 NHS standard acute contract

This suite of Department of Health documents is for those commissioners and providers who entered into the acute services contract that was published in December 2007, who are now working to a document that does not reflect changes brought about by the operating framework for 2009-

1010.

The standard deed of variation is designed to vary those existing acute services contracts by incorporating the significant elements of the 2009/2010 standard NHS contract for acute services brought about by the

operating framework. (Published May 2009, 3 documents)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_099587

Social Care; reform of funding and delivery

There is almost universal consensus that the current system of social care funding is unsustainable and in urgent need of reform. Many older people and adults with disabilities, well as their families and carers, are being failed now and under the existing arrangements highly unlikely that in future the state will be able to support the costs of rising demand for long-term care. By 2026 it is estimated that one in five

people will be aged 65 or over and number of over-85s will have increased by two-thirds – this compares with overall population growth of just 10 per cent. The 2009 Budget revised down the government's forecasts for what it expects to spend on public services and benefits from 2011/12, but given that the existing system is unsustainable doing nothing is not an option, even in the current economic climate.

This briefing from The King's Fund looks ahead to the Green Paper on social care, expected in June, and sets out the key tests that any new settlement will need to meet. (Published May 2009, 3 pages)

http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/research/projects/social_care_reform_of_funding_delivery/index.html

The Health Bill second reading – briefing from the King's Fund

The King's Fund has produced this briefing ahead of the second reading of the Health Bill in the House of Commons.

The King's Fund welcomes the measures outlined in the new Health Bill to introduce a Constitution for the NHS; pilot direct payments for

patients; require providers of NHS-funded care to produce annual quality accounts; and make further provisions on tobacco control. Ahead of the Health Bill's second reading in the House of Commons on Monday 8 June, we have some specific issues relating to the Health Bill that we would

like to raise with you and encourage you to seek clarification on these during its passage. (Published June 2009, 4 pages)

http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/what_we_do/parliamentary_activities/the_health_bill.html

Making markets work for patients: Are commissioners up for it?

On the Kings Fund Blog John Appleby comments It's now nearly two decades since the introduction of a separation between purchasers and providers in the NHS. In that time purchasers (as they were then called) should have come a long way in grappling with an essential commissioning task: understanding and managing markets. But with PCTs scoring worst on the World Class Commissioning competency of 'stimulating the market' it's clear that there is still some way to go. The question is, does the NHS really understand what a complex and difficult task this market management is going to be?

(Published May 2009)

http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/discuss/the_kings_fund_blog/making_markets_work.html

Conference: WCC Competencies - Personal Development Awareness

These events aim to support PCTs to develop their workforce and realise benefits for the organisation in the journey to becoming A World Class Commissioning organisation.

The programme will provide information that enables people and organisations to increase individual skills and raise performance to meet World Class Commissioning Competencies.

Conference 26th June

<http://www.pcc.nhs.uk/events/all/1307>

World class commissioning monthly update May 2009

A Monthly progress report on the world class commissioning programme from Gary Belfield.

(Published May 2009, 54 pages)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/DH_099882

Understanding what matters: A guide to using patient feedback to transform care

Last autumn, health secretary Alan Johnson said he wanted to see NHS Trusts collecting and using "immediate feedback" from patients to drive service improvement.

To help the NHS harness the information it gathers, a guide – called 'Understanding what matters: A guide to using patient feedback to transform services' has been published.

The guide sets out best practice in terms of collecting, analysing and using patient feedback to transform services. It also includes examples of how the NHS is already using feedback from patients to get results.

This resource, is one of a number being produced to help services understand and respond to what really matters to patients and their experiences of care.

(Published May 2009, 34 pages)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_099780

Other documents

Tackling health inequalities: 10 years on

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_098936

Government Response to The Health Select Committee Report on Health Inequalities

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_099781