

New Approaches to Commissioning Eyecare

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Lessons from the ECSSG Pilot Evaluations

- It is challenging and it takes time to change historical working practices
- Strong relationships will be a major influence on the success of the project.
- These will be built on a personal rather than an organisational basis
- Communication strategy should ensure engagement of all potential
- stakeholders



Lessons from the ECSSG Pilot Evaluations

- Mapping is needed for:
 - current service delivery
 - future demand
 - capacity issues
 - patient engagement
 - cost benefit analysis



So why bother?

- Our Health, Our Care, Our Say
- Commissioning Framework – July 2006
– commissioning cycle
- Operating Framework 2007-08
- Practice Based Commissioning:
practical implementation guidance



Our Health, Our Care, Our Say

- More care undertaken outside hospitals and in the home
- Better joining up of services at the local level
- Allowing different providers to compete for services
- Improvements to access

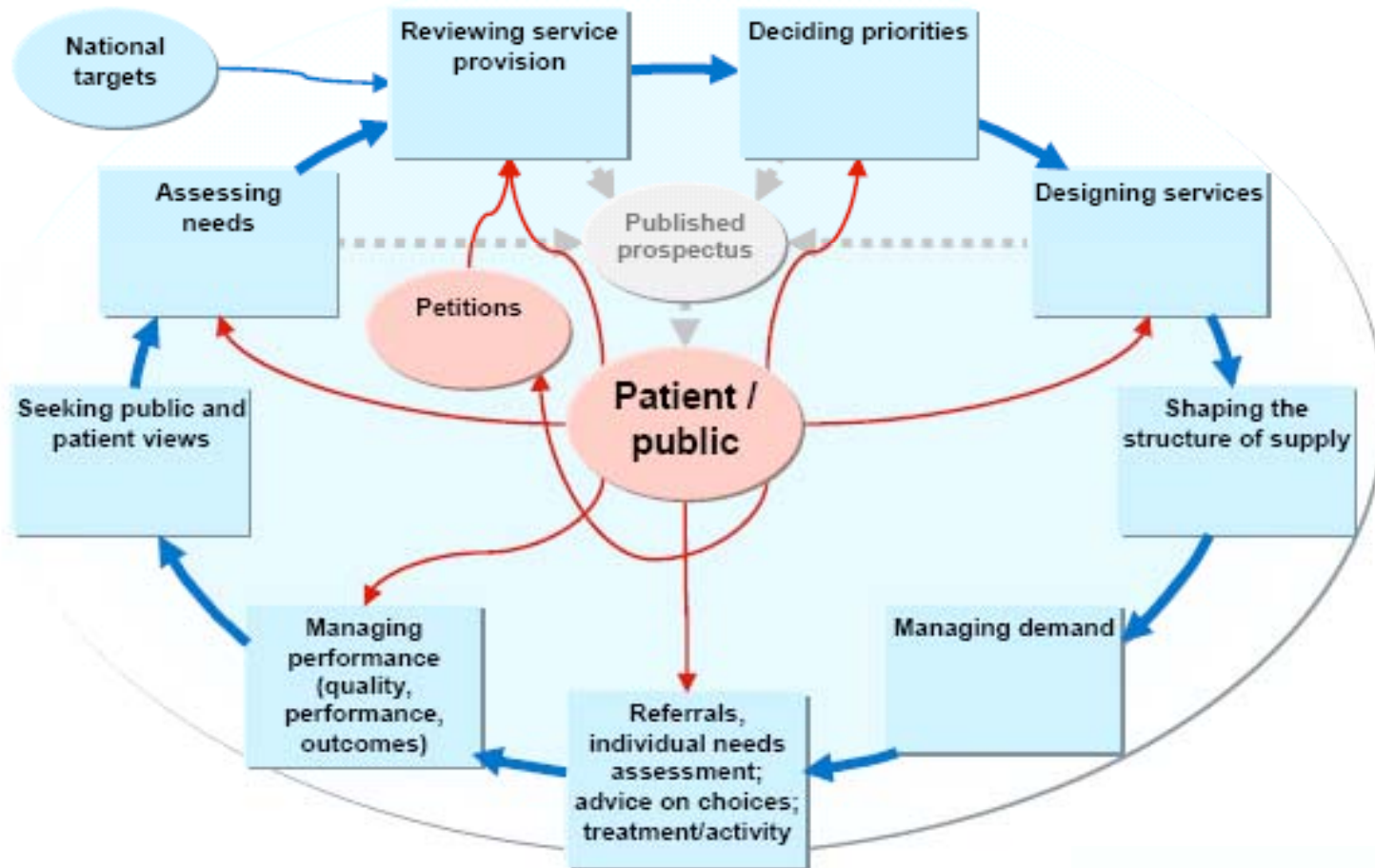


Operating Framework Priorities for 2007-08 include:

- Achieving a maximum wait of 18 weeks from GP referral to start of treatment of patients
- Reducing health inequalities
- Achieving financial health



The Commissioning Cycle



Practice Based Commissioning: practical implementation

- Optometrists, dentists and pharmacists should start to get involved
- For providers looking to supply a routine elective service, including those developed through PBC, tendering may not be required – see detailed guidance
- PCTs should seek to establish a range of providers, driving up quality through contestability

Business Planning & Self Assessment

- Questions cover a number of important commissioning aspects
- Questions can be used as a guide to assess how local implementation of community eye care services can be commissioned and implemented more quickly, comprehensively and effectively



Business Planning & Self Assessment

- Questions provide a useful guide to local business case planning for Practice Based Commissioners
- Answers can be used as the beginning of a coherent business plan which will need to be discussed with local stakeholders and submitted to the PCT for ratification
- Not all questions will be relevant to local circumstances



Local Need

- Has a local needs assessment taken place?
- Is there real evidence of the need for improved eye health across the whole area or in smaller localities?
- Will this service have an impact on local delivery plan and public health targets or PBC objectives?
- Can future demand for hospital eyecare services be determined accurately?

Practice Based Commissioning

- Are local PBC clusters involved in local commissioning decisions?
- Is there expert support provided to local practices?
- Can it be demonstrated that commissioning resources be freed up to re-invest in primary care?
- Are local or alternative providers incentivised to provide a high quality service, delivering better patient outcomes?



Stakeholder Engagement

- Has a clinical lead for the service been identified?
- Is there visible/active clinical engagement in the planning, delivery and monitoring of the service?



Stakeholder Engagement

- Have all other local stakeholders been identified, including:
 - patient representatives
 - local people
 - secondary care
 - Local Authority
 - voluntary sector and third sector?
- Are they involved in design of the patient pathway and local indicators of performance?



Workforce

- Is there a clear projection of capacity needed to cope with current and future patient demand?
- Are there contingencies in place for cross cover during holidays/sickness?

Workforce

- Will service providers be able to use the full range of skill mix where appropriate?
- Have providers got access to accreditation and continuing professional development opportunities locally?



Infrastructure

- Do provider premises offer a good range of choice and accessibility for local patients?
- Have equipment and premises been checked and do they comply with minimum standards?
- Is there a mechanism to utilise or develop an integrated IT solution for dealing with patient records management and clinical audit?



Funding

- Have resources for a full service been clearly identified?
- How and when will providers get paid and for what deliverables?
- What negotiations have taken place?
- How cost-effective is this service in relation to hospital services under tariff?



Governance

- Has there been an analysis of risks in developing and implementing this service?
- Is there a clear plan for integrated governance on an ongoing basis?
- Is there a clinical governance lead identified?
- Have links been built in to the Standards for Better Health?



Performance Monitoring

- Have simple, measurable criteria for provider behaviours/activity and patient outcomes been developed?
- Is there a clear process of monitoring and reviewing performance of individual providers and the service as a whole?

Contracting

- Has the appropriate primary care contracting route for the service been identified?
- PCT or PBC cluster? Supra PCT level?
- Is there a clear process for reviewing contracts and managing entry and exit of local providers?



Access

- Will the proposal decrease health inequalities?
- Will the proposal improve access to care?
- Will the service be accessible to patients with disabilities?
- Will the service be accessible to black and minority ethnic groups?



How will NHS Primary Care Contracting be helping?

- Toolkit with examples of emergent practice – published today
- 4 Regional Events
- Early March
- Very practical and hands on
- Likely venues – Taunton, Manchester, Birmingham (or Leicester) & London



How will NHS Primary Care Contracting be helping?

- Follow up events – maybe?
- Support in using the toolkits
- Advice on dealing with the 3rd sector
- Publishing and promoting good practice
- Website and FAQs expanded and rewritten
- Query helpline & email address
- Briefing papers



Delivering the Vision

Innovations from the Eyecare Pathways

