

NHS Haringey – additional savings

Background

NHS Haringey is committed to reducing its 2010/11 overspend to £25m by the year end March 2011. The projection of year end overspend without further savings measures is currently £33m. The PCT is already at full stretch to achieve the existing set of savings schemes therefore extra schemes are required to close the gap further.

A number of additional saving schemes have been identified which if all implemented would save in total an additional £2m in 2010/11. Some of the proposals relate to changes to internal processes with no impact on patients eg reducing the level of maintenance on the buildings in St Anne's that are managed by NHS Haringey.

Other schemes will impact on patients. A number of these schemes the NHS Haringey board has already stated that it does not want to proceed with because of the significant impact on specific groups of patients. For the remaining schemes, the board has asked for the appropriate consultation or engagement process with stakeholders and users of the service to take place, including equalities impact assessment studies, before reaching a final decision on whether to proceed or not.

A brief description of all the schemes are as follows:

Scheme 1 – BEHMHT in year contract review regarding a current annual £490,000 underspend on the contract. Proceed with engagement/consultation.

Scheme 2: Capital accounting review of revaluation reserve. This is an accounting measure which could lead to savings.

Scheme 3 – GP referral management. NHS Haringey is providing commissioning advice to GPs to ensure they make appropriate referrals to hospitals. Proceed with engagement/consultation.

Schemes 4b and 4c – Speech and Language and Occupational Therapy for Children. Both rejected by the board.

Scheme 4d – National childhood measurement programme. NHS Haringey measures the weight of children at five years to ascertain levels of obesity in the borough. However, apart from informing the parents of the weight of their child, there is no follow up work. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Schemes 5a, 5b and 5c – Mental Health user engagement, Turkish Kurdish support and day service escorting. NHS Haringey recognises that there will need to be appropriate link up with LBH in order that their concerns about the impact on their services are understood and addressed. Proceed with engagement/consultation.

Schemes 6a, 6b and 6c – Stopping funding support for Age UK, Carers Centre and withdrawing funding for HAVCO. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Scheme 7 – Reducing the number of unnecessary births by Caesarean section. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Scheme 8 – suspension of current IVF treatments. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Schemes 9– additional low priority treatments where there will need to be a clear clinical case before the treatment can proceed. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Scheme 10 – reduce the level of funding for public health. Proceed to engagement/consultation.

Scheme 11 – Giving support and advice to GPs on better management of medicines and treatments to their patients – eg not proscribing medicines of limited clinical value.

Scheme 12 – taking measures to reduce the cost and usage of high cost drugs.

Scheme 13 – taking steps to reduce the cost of continuing care for patients. Measures include reuse of Priscilla Wakefield House and decommissioning of Beech Ward.

Scheme 15 – Rebasing PMS contracts to ensure equivalent rates for payment for patients on general medical services contract and personal medical services contract. Proceed to engagement/consultation.

Schemes 16 – not to re-establish GP led health centres at the Laurels and Hornsey and instead provide normal GP services. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Scheme 17 – Continuing with the current GP Out of Hours service provided by Harmoni is a saving on the previous service. Proceed to engagement/consultation.

Scheme 18 – We are developing a new urgent care centre at the North Middlesex hospital, to divert those patients away from the A&E service that do not require this service.

Scheme 19 – Raising the eligibility thresholds for community services, which will reduce the level of demand upon the services. Proceed to engagement/consultation

Scheme 20 – Decommissioning of Chestnut Ward in Greentrees and commission a new alternative provision at a more cost effective rate. Proceed to engagement/consultation.

Scheme 21 – Reduce the amount of maintenance on buildings at the St Ann's site.