

16 December 2010

**Gateway Ref: 15113**

**To: Directors of Adult Social Services  
Local Authority Chief Executives  
PCT Chief Executives  
NHS Chief Executives**

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Dear Colleagues

## **Learning Disabilities and Health Reform grant: the NHS Campus Closure Programme**

### **The 2010 Spending Review Settlement**

David Behan's letter of 20 October to Directors of Adult Social Services (Gateway 14970), set out the details of the social care settlement, including the £1.3bn Learning Disabilities and Health Reform grant. The Local Government settlement and LASSL issued on 13 December gave further details<sup>1</sup> alongside publication of the consultation response on the commissioning transfer, preserved rights and AIDS support grants which gave individual allocations to local authorities based on reported values.

The Learning Disabilities and Health Reform grant reflects the transfer of responsibility for funding and commissioning of services for adults with learning disabilities from the NHS to local authorities. The grant includes social care revenue, reported and agreed between PCTs and councils, which supported adults with learning disabilities, who previously lived in the long stay hospitals. It also includes former campus residents who have moved to community accommodation.

This transfer of revenue will improve outcomes for people with learning disabilities as local authorities have overall funding and commissioning responsibility for their social care. *A Vision for Adult Social Care: Capable Communities and Active Citizens* published on 16 November, set a new direction for adult social care, with personalised services and outcomes at its centre. The Vision is about making services more personalised and more focused on delivering the best outcomes for those who use them, including people with learning disabilities. This includes minimising the use of residential care and improving outcomes through supporting people to live as independently as possible.

### **Campus Closure Programme**

As you know, the previous government made a commitment in the White Paper,

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*Our Care, Our Health, Our Say* that all NHS campuses for people with learning disabilities should close by 2010 – and it was included in the *Valuing People Now* Strategy published in 2009. To support this commitment capital and revenue funding was made available between 2007/8 and 2010/11 to facilitate moves to appropriate independent living with support in community settings.

For those areas who have people still living in campus accommodation, I am writing to let you know arrangements for collecting data on numbers of people still meeting the campus definition (see **Annex A**) at the end of 2010, and those people in transition when funding transfers to councils under the new Learning Disability and Health Reform in April 2011.

### **Monitoring and Transition**

Overall, there has been significant progress across the country but not everyone living in campuses will have moved by the end of the year.

We expect that, as a minimum, everyone still in campuses at the end of 2010 will have new support providers in place and full transition plans. In some areas, people will be in transition to their new homes during 2011, because of planning and other unexpected delays, although most will have moved by March 2011. The exceptions are those areas where there are legal challenges and where decisions are awaited from the Court of Protection.

The NHS Information Centre, has made twice yearly data collections since the programme begun, and will be making a final collection in December so that we know numbers at the end of 2010. Valuing People regional leads, Strategic Health Authorities (SHA) and Deputy Regional Directors will continue to have a role at local level to monitor progress of those areas with people in transition in the early months of 2011.

From 1 April 2011, with the new Learning Disabilities and Health Reform grant reflecting the transfer of social care responsibility to local authorities, it will be the role of councils to work in partnership with PCTs, so that the final moves of people in transition from campuses to new homes in the community are successfully completed. We know that local Learning Disability Partnership Boards will continue to take a keen interest in extending housing options for individuals. The National Learning Disability Programme Board has maintained an overview of campus closure and will consider further progress early in the new year.

### **Assessment and Treatment (A and T) units**

The definition of NHS campus (see **Annex A**), includes those people 'who have been in assessment and treatment services more than one year, who are not compulsorily detained or undergoing a recognised evidence based treatment programme'. The NHS Information Centre collected this data as part of the wider campus collection (see above). People in A and T units do not fall within the 2010 commitment to close all campuses. There are however around 50 people recorded as meeting the definition in A and T units at the end of September 2010.

The Regional Health Self Assessment Framework means that every area still has a local tool for monitoring people in A and T units, once the NHS

Information Centre collection ends after January 2011. To avoid the inappropriate use of A and T beds (and low to medium security facilities and other specialist facilities) in situations where people are not receiving active treatment and who are not compulsorily detained, you may want to consider, as an alternative, the build up of specific community based services. This might include psychological, psychiatric and other inputs, which can benefit for example, those with mental health issues as well as those labelled with challenging behaviour.

If you have any queries about these arrangements you can contact your Valuing People regional lead, SHA or Deputy Regional Director for Social Care.

Kind regards.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne Williams". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

**ANNE WILLIAMS**  
**NATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES**

## Annex A

### NHS campus definition

A campus is a service that is one and two and can include three:

1. NHS provided long-term care in conjunction with NHS ownership/management of housing (residents do not have an independent landlord and housing rights)
2. Commissioned by the NHS
3. People who have been in assessment and treatment services more than one year, who are not compulsorily detained or undergoing a recognised evidence based treatment programme

People living in such accommodation are technically and legally NHS patients.

The following cases would not be enough on their own to exclude services from re-provision:

- i) the properties being small houses in a dispersed setting
- ii) an NHS discharge process having been followed

People who live in settings registered with CQC are not campuses.