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Gateway Ref: 14513

To: PCT and local authority learning disability commissioners

Learning Disability: Transfer of funding and commissioning of social care for adults with learning disabilities from the NHS to local Government - consultation

I am writing to let you know about consultation arrangements for the LD commissioning transfer as set out in David Nicholson's letter in August 2008: 'The Department will consult on the determination of these allocations before its intention to allocate directly to local authorities is implemented'. We have now received returns from all but one area. This is very impressive and I am very grateful for the hard work that this represents.

This consultation does not pre judge the outcome of the Spending Review, which will be announced in October 2010. The Spending Review will determine whether the LD transfer grant is included as a DH specific grant or rolled into Formula Grant from 2011 onwards. Discussion are ongoing with the Department of Communities and Local Government and Treasury about these allocations options from 2011/12. A consultation exercise will run over the summer on allocation options for issuing LD commissioning transfer as a DH specific grant.

As set out in my letter of 18 March, for the purpose of the consultation, the returns received by end May have been used to model different options. We will publish these figures in the consultation document. There will be the opportunity to update your figures as part of your consultation response.

This letter is copied to your SHA, DRD and Valuing People regional lead. Please get in touch with them or the project manager, Pam Nixon (Comms.Transfer@dh.gsi.gov.uk) if you have any queries.

Kind regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Anne Williams
National Director, Learning Disabilities

Copied to:
SHA Learning Disability leads
Directors of Adult Social Services
Deputy Regional Directors for Social Care
Valuing People regional leads
NHS Confederation, ADASS, LGA