

Welcome to the July edition of Monitor's FT Bulletin.

This bulletin is sent to foundation trust chief executives, chairs, trust secretaries, finance, medical and nursing directors and the Foundation Trust Network. Click on the links below to jump straight to the relevant sections of the bulletin.

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For action

[We need your views on our proposals for the 2015/16 National Tariff](#)

Monitor and NHS England are in the process of developing the 2015/16 National Tariff Payment System.

Our proposals are in line with our long-term aim of developing a transparent, flexible and accountable NHS payment system that encourages the provision of good-quality, efficient services and the best possible outcomes for patients. This applies to mental health and physical health services equally.

[We've published a series of documents](#), collectively known as the 2015/16 Tariff Engagement Document, which propose a number of changes for 2015/16.

We are committed to parity of esteem between mental and physical health, and we expect payment for mental health services to follow local payment arrangements that are transparent, act in the best interests of patients and are based on constructive engagement.

How you can get involved

We're inviting the healthcare sector, including providers, commissioners, clinicians, and other interested stakeholders, to [provide feedback on our proposals](#).

Once you've read through our proposals, you can use our simple online response form to send us your views. The deadline for responses is **Friday 15 August 2014**. [Find out more](#).

Your feedback will be reflected in the proposals that we present for statutory consultation this autumn.

Upcoming webinars

We are also running a series of free webinars in July and August to inform, engage and seek your views on the development of the National Tariff 2015/16. Find out more and learn how to sign up [here](#).

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[Request from Public Accounts Committee \(PAC\) for information on whistleblowing and bullying](#)

Monitor recently contacted all foundation trusts to facilitate a data request from the PAC relating to whistleblowing and bullying. Queries have been raised about the request and how this data will be used, therefore we would like to take this opportunity to explain this process.

To confirm, the request is asking you to submit information about individuals that have reported suffering bullying or harassment as a result of whistleblowing, not all whistleblowing instances. Once you have submitted your excel spreadsheet, Monitor will collate the information submitted by all foundation trusts and pull out headline figures. These headline figures will then be passed to the PAC, via the Department of Health. This will not include individually identifiable information. All returned forms by foundation trusts will be held by Monitor in line with data retention policies.

Please see the [letter we sent to foundation trusts](#) this month for more details.

[Our response to the Public Accounts Committee report on Monitor](#)

The Public Accounts Committee recently published a report titled 'Monitor: regulating NHS Foundation Trusts'. You can read Monitor Chief Executive David Bennett's response [here](#).

[Referral to treatment \(RTT\) backlogs](#)

Monitor would like to thank all foundation trusts who have engaged with their local commissioners to develop plans to address their RTT long waiter backlogs. As a member of the national tripartite panel, Monitor has been involved in the development and co-ordination of this national initiative. We recognise the planning has been a considerable undertaking over a short period of time, and understand the execution of these plans is likely to be very challenging, particularly over the summer months.

We recognise this exercise will necessarily mean that a number of foundation trusts will fail RTT admitted and non-admitted standards for Q2 - some by quite a large margin – whilst backlogs are addressed.

You should actively treat long waiter patients in line with a plan agreed with your

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commissioners. Clearing backlogs is in the best interests of patients, which is our biggest priority. If this results in your trust failing the Q2 RTT targets and subsequently accruing 3 consecutive quarterly failures, we will take this into account when deciding whether to investigate.

[Jimmy Savile investigations: please review your safeguarding procedures](#)

We recommend you [review the findings and recommendations of the NHS investigation reports into Jimmy Savile](#), in particular the reports concerning Broadmoor Hospital and Leeds General Infirmary, and their relevance to your trust's own governance systems. In total, 28 NHS hospitals have reported on their investigations into Jimmy Savile. Please take steps to ensure that any gaps identified in your own safeguarding procedures are addressed as soon as possible.

Following publication of the reports, we have issued a [joint statement](#) along with NHS England, the NHS Trust Development Authority and the Care Quality Commission.

The team co-ordinating the investigations will publish a lessons learned document for the NHS later in the year.

[The Savile Legacy Unit](#)

An independent unit dedicated to the oversight of investigations by foundation trusts and NHS trusts into matters that relate to Jimmy Savile has been set up. Its primary role is to:

- co-ordinate all NHS-related allegations with regard to the activities of Savile
- quality assure and support the investigation by NHS trusts of such allegations
- act as a channel between NHS trusts, the police and partner organisations, as necessary and appropriate
- review and quality assure trust reports and recommendations

The members of the unit are:

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- Sue Proctor (Chair)
- Claire Jones (NHS Relationship Manager)
- Ray Galloway (Investigation Oversight and Support)

If your trust needs to investigate an allegation relating to Savile you should, in the first instance, contact the Legacy Unit on 0113 254 5502 or via savileinvestigations@dh.gsi.gov.uk

'Risk assessment framework' clarification: definition of 'adults' for the Care Programme Approach (CPA) 7-day follow-up indicator from 2014/15

We are aware of discrepancies in reporting against the 7-day CPA follow-up indicator for mental health providers.

This has been caused by differing interpretations of 'adult' for the purposes of the metric and has led to several queries from NHS foundation trusts and quality accounts auditors. We are currently working with the Department of Health and the Information Centre, and any queries we have received have been passed to them. We intend to agree a clarification regarding the definition of 'adult' for the purposes of this metric, which we will share in a future FT Bulletin.

In the meantime, mental health foundation trusts should continue with their existing reporting practices for performance against the CPA 7-day follow-up indicator.

Informing Monitor about significant transactions

Trusts are reminded that a potential transaction (statutory or otherwise) will need to be reported to Monitor if it is material or significant (see Appendix C of the Risk assessment framework, updated April 2014).

For significant transactions, which require a detailed review by Monitor, trusts should engage with us as early as possible before submitting any documentation. This is to

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establish a timetable for the review and agree specific documentation requirements.

To help us plan and allocate the resources necessary to carry out a significant transaction review, trusts must ensure that requested documentation is submitted before the start of a review. If not, resources may be reallocated to other assessments, which will delay the review.

Licence conditions: what has been the impact for you and your patients?

We are committed to improving regulation and how we work with you. We'd like to know your experience of the NHS provider licence since it came into effect for NHS foundation trusts on 1 April 2013.

Share your views **by 31 August** through:

- our [online survey](#) or
- the [word response form](#)

We will communicate what we've heard alongside any proposed next steps in autumn 2014. Depending on your feedback, the next steps may involve more detailed research.

Have your say on adult hearing services in England

We are researching the extent to which patients in England benefit from having a choice of NHS hearing loss services. We're keen to hear from service providers, commissioners, GPs, patients and patient representatives. You can take part up until 4 September. [Find out more and share your views.](#)



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Have you Signed up to Safety?

Join [the 11 foundation trusts](#) who have already committed to make their services more safe and to dramatically reduce rates of avoidable harm. Register your foundation trust at www.signuptosafety.nhs.uk and join the patient safety conversation on Twitter at #SignuptoSafety @SignuptoSafety

Signing up to Safety means you commit to:

- publicly declare how your foundation trust will improve safety
- turn your proposed actions into a safety improvement plan
- engage your staff and patients in the campaign and link to existing safety initiatives
- encourage reporting of patient safety incidents
- regularly report progress against your plan to improve safety, explaining action taken in response to safety alerts

Find out more in [our joint letter to you last month](#), explaining why your personal leadership as chief executives of foundation trusts is crucial to strengthening patient safety.

Jeremy Hunt: message to NHS staff on strengthening patient safety

The Secretary of State for Health talks about a number of new initiatives launched to strengthen patient safety in the NHS. [Read more](#).

For information

Monitor concludes its review of pathology services in the north west of England

The proposed merger of Southport and Ormskirk Hospital and St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals is not likely to have a negative impact on patients. Following a review, we have given our advice to the NHS Trust Development Authority. [Read more](#).

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Publications

[Changes to 'The NHS Foundation Trust Code of Governance'](#)

We published a revised Code of Governance for NHS foundation trusts in December 2013, to reflect new legislation and to clarify reporting requirements. Since then a small number of corrections and amendments have been made to it, in response to your feedback and to ensure consistency with guidance elsewhere.

The revised Code – including all amendments – is now [available on our website](#). The cover notes the new issue date of July 2014 to avoid confusion. In addition, to make all changes completely transparent, we have also prepared a [summary of all significant edits](#) made since the December launch. Any queries or concerns? Please contact: enquiries@monitor.gov.uk

[NHS foundation trusts: consolidated accounts 2013/14](#)

Thank you for laying your annual report and accounts by the Parliamentary deadline last month - this is something that all NHS foundation trusts are required to do before these reports are published. Our report '[NHS foundation trusts: consolidated accounts 2013/14](#)' shows how the NHS foundation trust sector as a whole is responding to increasing NHS financial pressures (as a result of which 41 out of the 147 NHS foundation trusts reported a deficit at the end of the financial year, compared to 21 in 2012/13).

[Monitor's annual report and accounts 2013/14](#)

We recently published our annual report and accounts for 2013/14 which reflects on our first year as sector regulator for health services in England, with a duty to protect and promote the interests of patients. [Read the report](#).

[Consultation on proposed amendments to the FT Annual Reporting Manual 2014/15](#)

This guidance is designed to help you by outlining the process foundation trusts should follow when producing and submitting these important documents. Clear and transparent reporting helps a trust, as well as its governors, members and patients, understand and scrutinise the year's operations and outcomes.

We are consulting on changes to the NHS Foundation Trust Annual Reporting Manual (FT ARM) for 2014/15 [here](#). Please complete the consultation response form on our website and return it to consultation@monitor.gov.uk by **5pm on Friday 29 August 2014**.

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CEO/ Chair induction - 12 September

Are you a newly appointed chair or chief executive of an NHS foundation trust? Perhaps you have no prior experience of our foundation trust authorisation process? If so, register for our **free CEO/Chair induction day on 12 September**. Venue: our offices in Waterloo, London. Limited spaces allocated on a first come first served basis. Book your place or be kept informed of future dates by emailing: mel.baldwin@monitor.gov.uk

The induction includes:

- our role: including an overview of pricing and competition
- the NHS foundation trust legal framework
- the regulatory regime: including the 'Risk assessment framework' and enforcement processes
- current issues in the NHS
- quality and quality governance
- foundation trust governance, including working effectively with governors

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[Liverpool Care Pathway review: response to recommendations](#)

The [Leadership Alliance for the Care of Dying People](#), made up of 21 national health and care organisations, has published 'One Chance to Get it Right'. This is the response to the recommendations set out in [More Care, Less Pathway](#), the independent review of the Liverpool Care Pathway. [Learn more](#).

Materials for health and care staff and organisations involved in implementing the priorities are available from the [NHS Improving Quality website](#).

[The NHS Number survey](#)

On 1 July, NHS England launched the NHS Number survey. The intention is to establish the use of the NHS Number on all clinical correspondence by trusts across England.

The NHS Number as the primary (main) identifier in clinical correspondence is important for Technology Fund applications and also reflects the provision in the 'NHS Standard Contract' for 2014-15. The contract states that "the provider must use the NHS Number as the primary (main) identifier in all clinical correspondence".

NHS England will provide tailored support within each region, through its strategic systems and technology regional leads. Completing this survey is vital as it will enable them to target that support where it is needed most. The [survey](#) should take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete.

It is recommended that the survey is completed by someone in the role of Chief Information Officer or similar. Once responses to the survey have been collated, NHS England's Strategic Systems and Technology regional leads and local Clinical Commissioning Groups will work to support trusts to track progress across their organisations and achieve full implementation.

Any questions about the survey? Contact: England.NHSNsurvey@nhs.net

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[Consultation on 3 new modules to support the Sustainable Development Strategy](#)

The [Sustainable Development Strategy](#) is supported by a number of modules that each focus on a different aspect of sustainability in the health system. [Five modules](#) were launched by the Sustainable Development Unit (NHS England and Public Health) in January 2014. Comments from colleagues across the sector are welcomed to help shape the following 3 modules, to be launched in January 2015:

- [an integrated metrics approach](#)
- [innovation, technology and R&D](#)
- [creating social value](#)

[Find out more](#). The consultation closes on **31 August**.

Health and Care System Adaptation Report 2015

A report on how the health and care system is adapting to climate change is being developed and interested people are encouraged to input.

A working group has been set up to look at adaptation in the following parts of the system: national bodies, providers (NHS), ambulance trusts, clinical commissioning groups, health and wellbeing boards.

The report will be published in May 2015. To find out more or to get involved in the working group contact the Sustainable Development Unit for NHS England and Public Health England on 0113 825 3220 or email england.sdu@nhs.net.

Future-Focused Finance Newsletter #2

In May, [we wrote to you](#) about how you can contribute to Future-Focused Finance as leaders. Find out more about the programme in [Future-Focused Finance Newsletter #2](#)

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