



Room 402, Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG
Tel: 020 7972 2000

16 December 2010

To: PCT Directors of Finance
cc: PCT Chief Executives
SHA Directors of Finance
SHA End of Life Care Clinical & Management Leads

Gateway Ref: 15263

Dear Colleagues,

For Action: Monitoring use of the additional investment provided to support implementation of the End of Life Care Strategy in 2010/11; and, survey of expenditure by PCTs on specialist palliative care in 2010/11 (ROCR/OR/0268/000).

Return by Friday, 6 May 2011

I am writing to ask for information on the use of the new funding provided to your Primary Care Trust to implement the End of Life Care Strategy, and for information on the total expenditure by your PCT on specialist palliative care, in 2010/11.

The collection of this data has been approved by the Review of Central Returns Steering Committee, ROCR, as a mandatory collection (ref: ROCR/OR/0268/000) and has Gateway approval (Ref: 15263).

Background

The Department of Health is investing £198 million of new money (revenue and capital) in 2010/11 to support implementation of the End of Life Care (EoLC) Strategy. Some of this funding has been allocated to SHAs and some to hospices as capital, but most has been allocated direct to PCT baselines. The money is not ring-fenced.

The Government is committed to improving EoLC services. Implementation of the Strategy, and appropriate use of the additional funding, are issues of great interest to Ministers, Parliament and the public. The Strategy includes a commitment to monitor the use of the new money allocated to help implement the Strategy. This commitment was repeated in the Second Annual Report on the End of Life Care Strategy (August 2010), in line with Sir David Nicholson's undertaking to the Public Accounts Committee.

We are therefore repeating the exercise we conducted in 2009/10 to monitor in more detail than usual how this new money is being invested. This will provide a picture, nationally and by PCT and SHA, of the overall NHS investment. This exceptional exercise will help us to see how the new money has been used for EoLC, put together a national picture of how services are developing, provide data that will help SHAs in their monitoring role and

provide greater transparency. The Quality and Productivity Challenge, with its emphasis on linking improvements in quality with improvements in financial efficiency, highlights EoLC and makes this exercise even more relevant.

We are this year also asking for information on the total funding allocated by your PCT for specialist palliative care services in 2010/11. This is a repeat of the exercise the Department conducted in 2008 for the year 2006/07 in the run-up to the publication of the EoLC Strategy.

Action required

The first part of the template for PCTs (attached) asks for information on all new investment in EoLC during 2010/11 by the PCT. This should cover: NHS and voluntary managed services, including hospices; services in the community; in-patient services and services in any other setting; and, staff training. The template asks that the new investment be categorised against those initiatives highlighted in the Strategy as being helpful to develop EoLC services. Information on any services where the PCT may have disinvested during the year is also requested. Returns should only include new investment made in 2010/11.

The second part of the template asks for information on the total expenditure by your PCT on specialist palliative care services in 2010/11. Information on what is required is detailed on the template.

Although none of the categories on the template is compulsory, the exercise itself is mandatory.

All returns should be agreed by the PCT Director of Finance and be sent to the Department of Health and copied to your SHA Director of Finance, who is being asked to provide an amalgamated return for the SHA covering new investment.

As with the 2009/10 exercise, the results of the Department's analysis of all the returns will be shared with the Public Accounts Committee and be made publicly available via the Department's website.

I attach an electronic version of the template for completion. I would be grateful if this could be completed and returned to the Department of Health at EOLC@dh.gsi.gov.uk, and copied to your SHA Director of Finance, **by Friday, 6 May 2011** at the latest, please. For enquiries, please contact Robert Freeman at the Department on the same e-mail address.

Thank you for your help with this work.

Yours faithfully,



Jane Allberry
Deputy Director
Head of Cancer and End of Life Care