

24th August 2011

Gateway Number: 16527

To: Directors of Finance, Primary Care Trusts in England

The 2011-2012 NHS-social care allocation return

Dear Colleague

The Department made £648 million available in 2011/12 to be transferred to local authorities for spend on social care activities that also benefit health.

We are writing to you as the accountable officer for this money to ask for your support in action that is needed to establish how the £648 million 2011-12 funding for social care is being spent. As set out in the Operating Framework, PCTs were required to jointly agree spend of this transfer money and to remain informed of its use, I hope that you can use this information to inform the data return we require.

The Quarter One returns provide assurance that the funding transfer is taking place. We now need to establish the areas of investment that have been agreed between local authorities and PCTs for the £648 million transfer. We need this information for the following reasons key reasons:

- The Health Select Committee has recently launched its call for evidence on the 2011 Public Expenditure Inquiry, and has explicitly asked for information on the funding transfer.
- We need to ensure that the money is being spent in accordance with the 2010 Spending Review commitments.
- Going forward into the new system, we will need to establish a mechanism to allocate the social care money for 2013/14 and 2014/15. To help this process it will be useful to understand how the funding is being spent at a local level.

In the collection, we will be looking for information on how the money is being spent by the following categories:

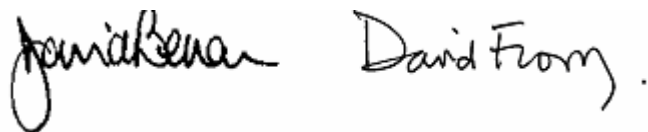
- Prevention services
- Community equipment and adaptations
- Telecare
- Crisis response services
- Maintaining eligibility criteria
- Re-ablement
- Mental health.

Completed returns should be sent to socialcarefinance@dh.gsi.gov.uk by 23rd of September. Your PCT Chief Executive should sign off the returns.

This collection is going out marked as 'ROCR approval applied for'. If you have any questions, you should not hesitate to contact the social care finance team socialcarefinance@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Many thanks for your help in this matter.

Yours,

Handwritten signatures of David Behan and David Flory. The signature of David Behan is on the left and David Flory's is on the right, followed by a period.

David Behan
Director General, Social Care,
Local Government and
Care Partnerships

David Flory
Deputy NHS Chief Executive