



Department
of Health

**National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)
Annual Accountability Review Meeting
2nd November 2016**

Present:

Department of Health

Lord Prior	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health PS(H)
Liz Woodeson	Director, Medicines and Pharmacy and Division
Libby Green	Deputy Director, Medicines and Pharmacy Division - NICE and MHRA sponsorship
Christopher Juliff	Lord Prior's Private Secretary

NICE

Prof David Haslam	Chairman, NICE
Sir Andrew Dillon	Chief Executive, NICE

1. Review of Progress in 2015/16

Sir Andrew Dillon provided an overview of the achievements of NICE over the past year.

NICE had published: 26 clinical guidelines, 48 technology appraisals, 34 quality standards, 34 interventional procedures recommendations, 6 pieces of public health guidance, 4 pieces of medtech guidance and 6 pieces of diagnostics guidance. NICE had continued to focus on ensuring that, wherever possible, it is able to issue guidance on new drugs rapidly after licensing with tighter timeliness targets introduced in the last year for cancer and EAMS drugs.

Sir Andrew outlined the first steps he was taking within NICE to adjust to DH funding reducing by 30% over the five year period to 2019-20. He emphasised how important it was to keep staff engaged in the process of finding efficiencies. There was discussion about future opportunities for NICE to generate additional income from other sources, including internationally and from its Scientific Advice Service.

Prof Haslam referred to the Triennial Review (published in July 15) that agreed that NICE continues to keep its form and function, making recommendations which DH continue to monitor, including to explore the benefits of charging.

Lord Prior congratulated NICE on a productive year and passed on the positive feedback he had received about the abilities and professionalism of the Institute.

2. Major Strategic Issues – 2016/17 and Beyond

Attendees discussed the major strategic challenges facing NICE.

Sir Andrew related NICE's key role in the development of the new operating model for the Cancer Drugs Fund which was introduced in July 2016, increasing NICE's input into deciding which drugs will be funded through it.

Sir Andrew also detailed how NICE had engaged positively with the Accelerated Access Review that has just been published.

Sir Andrew reported on the responses received to NICE's consultation on charging for Technology Appraisal & Highly Specialised Technologies programmes. Industry had raised some concerns with the proposals and NICE was considering these.

Lord Prior asked NICE to provide their views on the key components of the Government's forthcoming life sciences strategy, which they agreed to do shortly.

Finally, Sir Andrew summarised the important work they are and will be doing in digital health projects in partnership with Public Health England, especially with the development of health apps to advise the public.

3. Any other business

No other business was raised.

Lord Prior concluded the meeting by reiterating his thanks for NICE's impressive performance over 2015/16. Prof Haslam said he appreciated the support received from DH colleagues and greatly valued their partnership.