

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 6th November 2012

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director - Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health and Adults; Children, Young People & Families

SUBJECT: NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group – Progress on Authorisation

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Board on the progress of Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) towards authorisation as a statutory organisation as established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board Notes the content of the report and progress being made towards authorisation by Halton CCG.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 *Clinical commissioning group authorisation: Draft guide for applicants*, published in April 2012, set out the process by which applications from CCGs would be accepted in four waves between July and November 2012. The NHS Commissioning Board (NHS CB) has agreed that NHS Halton CCG is in the third authorisation wave from October 2012.

3.2 NHS Halton CCG submitted all authorisation evidence, cross referenced against 119 key lines of enquiry, by the NHS CB submission deadline of 2359 on 1st October 2012.

3.3 As part of the authorisation process NHS Halton CCG was required to undertake a 360° Stakeholder Survey. The stakeholder survey is an important part of the CCG authorisation assessment methodology. The NHS CBA selected the independent research agency Ipsos MORI to conduct the survey on its behalf. NHS Halton CCG provided Ipsos MORI with the contact details of specific stakeholders who were invited to participate and respond to questions regarding their relationships with the CCG. One of the specific stakeholders who the CCG had to include in the survey was the Health Policy and Performance Board as represented by the Chair.

The survey returns indicated that stakeholders were generally very positive about the engagement that has taken place with NHS Halton CCG so far. The majority felt they had been engaged by the CCG, with nine in ten saying they have been engaged at least a fair amount. Among these, the vast majority are satisfied with the way in which this has been done so far. Working relationships also appear to be strong, with nine in ten describing them as good.

In addition, a large majority of stakeholders were positive about the leadership of NHS Halton CCG. At least four in five rated each aspect of leadership positively, with no more than two stakeholders expressing negative views.

- 3.4 The submission of evidence to the NHS CB, including the outcomes of the 360° Stakeholder Survey, is being followed by a desk top review which is undertaken in advance of a site visit by an assessment team. The assessment team will be visiting NHS Halton CCG on 20th November 2012.
- 3.5 NHS Halton CCG is in the process of appointing an in-house management and commissioning support team. The Chief Officer Designate was appointed on 13th August 2012 and the Chief Finance Officer shortly after. The remaining roles will be recruited by mid-November 2012. Arrangements are being made with Merseyside Commissioning Support Unit (MCSU) for additional support to enable the CCG to deliver statutory and other duties. Existing arrangements for integrated working and co-production with Halton Borough Council will also be built upon.
- 3.6 NHS Halton CCG has recruited four Lay Members, one of whom will be Deputy Chair. These Lay Members started with NHS Halton CCG on 1st October 2012. NHS Halton CCG still needs to recruit a registered nurse and a secondary care doctor to the Governing Body.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 legislated for the establishment and authorisation of Clinical Commissioning Groups to replace Primary Care Trusts as part of the Coalition Government's reforms of the NHS.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

NHS Halton CCG will work closely with the Children's Trust to commission services for children and young people and to meet statutory responsibilities in regard to safeguarding.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None as a result of this report.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Halton CCG is a key partner in this agenda.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None as a result of this report.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None as a result of this report.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The key risk for Halton CCG is failure to meet authorisation criteria. This is mitigated by a clear action plan and an authorisation process that will ensure evidence is gathered to achieve authorisation.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 There are no equality and diversity issues as a result of this report. Halton CCG, as a statutory organisation, will comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
NHS Commissioning Board Authority, <i>Clinical commissioning group authorisation: Draft guide for applicants, April 2012</i>	http://www.commissioningboard.nhs.uk/files/2012/04/ccg-auth-app-guide.pdf	Simon Banks