Primary care update

Health and Adult Services Select Committee
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Personal medical services (PMS) are locally negotiated GP practice contracts which follow national regulations.

PMS contracts aim to improve the quality of services by basing them on the needs of the local population and provide value for money.

Practices on a PMS contract receive more funding per patient than most practices across London.

The difference in funding between these two types of contracts is called the ‘PMS premium’. 
PMS update

• There is a large variation in the amount of funding PMS practices in Barking and Dagenham receive and the services they provide with this funding.

• PMS contracts are being reviewed nationally to instead provide more consistent and equitable, but still local, contracts.

• The purpose of the review is to look into how to use the PMS premium funding most effectively, to ensure it provides best value and meets the needs of our patients.

• We have followed NHS England’s principals to carry out the PMS review.
PMS review

The review included:

• Identifying the current cost of PMS contracts
• Understanding how practices currently use the PMS premium
• Analysing the quality of the services provided through the premium
• Identifying what services should be provided through the premium and developing a local specification for the contract.
Local context

- 11 PMS practices in Barking and Dagenham
- Barking and Dagenham has the 2nd highest PMS premium in comparison to London
- Approximately £2.5m premium is invested in PMS practices in Barking and Dagenham
- There is currently a variation in premium between the individual practices that ranges between £61.26 - £21.84 per patient.
Next steps

- It is intended that there will be a single set patient premium for all PMS practices in Barking and Dagenham

- NHS England are in discussions with local medical committees (LMC) regarding the London-wide offer

- We are waiting for the outcome of these discussion, later this month, as this will inform our next steps.
We want to transform primary care, the services provided at our GP practices, to:

• provide more proactive care
• focus on prevention
• support self-care
• actively manage patients’ long-term conditions
• avoid unnecessary hospital admission
• reduce unnecessary referrals to hospital.
Primary care transformation

• To do this general practice will work together with other community health providers including pharmacies, dentists and optometrists, creating a highly effective, extended, place-based (locality) team.

• GPs will oversee care for their patients, and the team will work together to:
  • provide additional services
  • improve care quality
  • improve the use of GP time and collective resources – reducing administrative costs and making best use of available IT solutions.
Primary care transformation

Our transformation strategy will support practices to:
• Work with patients to tailor treatment plans and decide where care is delivered from
• Improve effectiveness and strengthen collaborative working
• Achieve CQC compliance, or address gaps resulting from inspections
• Provide more GP appointments
• Offer online patient access.

NHS England also provide support to practices through funding programmes, national pilots and GP recruitment drives.
Next steps

• We are mapping the locality areas, which will determine the geographic areas in which services will work together

• We will pilot the new locality based model in a locality, and review it before we roll it out across Barking and Dagenham.