

# **NATIONAL VOICES INITIAL ANALYSIS OF JULY 2010 HEALTH WHITE PAPER.**

## **1. THINGS TO SUPPORT**

Overall: commitment to NHS and its values including promoting equality, putting patients and public first and the NHS Constitution. First rate rhetoric.

### **Choice and control**

Shared decision-making: "no decision about me without me".

More choice - and defined broadly to encompass provider, consultant-led team, GP practice and choice of treatment.

Choice extended in maternity, mental health, long term condition management and end of life care. A coherent 24/7 urgent care service.

Consultation later in year on choice of treatment

Cautious expansion of personal health budgets based on further pilots and 2012 evaluation

### **Information "revolution"**

Patient access to health records and freedom to share

Information in standard and accessible formats

Information strategy in autumn

Patient rating of providers and a culture of openness and candour

### **Focus on outcomes and quality**

Accountability and payment to be focused on outcomes - payment by results reformed to incentivize outcomes not activities

Roll out of 150 NICE quality standards in five years to underpin commissioning

NICE standards to span health and social care

Commitment to build on Darzi

Public information to support choice and accountability, focused on safety, effectiveness and experience

Build on PROMs (patient reported outcome measures) and real time feedback to expand validity, collection and use of patient experience data

Performance data a spur to improvement in providers

Extend quality accounts

Published assessments of commissioning performance

Commitment to research maintained

QUIPP initiative retained and intensified

Valuing staff: implementation of Boorman review to improve staff health and well being

### **Accountability, democracy and health-social care integration**

Local authorities to promote joining up of health, social care and public health

Powers enabling joint working between NHS and local authorities to be simplified and extended

Health and social care to be better integrated at all levels – coming consultation

Commitment to resolve social care funding and recognition of the urgency.

### **Public voice**

Local healthwatch to have stronger role in gathering feedback, supporting choice and complaints and powers to recommend investigations. Further paper promised

### **Health inequalities**

Reaffirmation of NHS Constitution

Incentives to improve access to primary care in disadvantaged areas

Public health spending ring-fenced, weighted to reduce health inequalities

New Public Health Service and strengthened local authority role in coordinating health, social care and public health

## **2. STRUCTURAL CHANGES**

“The Government does not embark on these changes lightly. Taken together, they amount to a major delayering, which will cause significant disruption and loss of jobs, and incur transitional costs between now and 2013”.

Most commissioning handed to GP consortia

Commissioning to be led nationally by new NHS commissioning board

SHAs abolished in 2012/13

PCTs abolished from 2013 and health improvement functions transferred to local authorities

New statutory “health and wellbeing” boards within local authorities, with local authorities having a “strategic coordination” role at local level and “influence” over NHS commissioning

Strategic functions of Overview and Scrutiny Committees removed

A new national Public Health Service

A new national “HealthWatch” with local healthwatches as the reincarnation of local involvement networks

All NHS trusts to become foundation trusts

Increase foundation trusts’ freedoms - consultation to come.

Enhanced role for Monitor as economic regulator of whole NHS

Refocused role for Care Quality Commission, including as home of national Healthwatch

Any willing provider approach to community services

A coming “wide-ranging” review of all health and social care regulation with a commitment to reduce the burdens of regulation.

“hidden bail-outs” will end

Some arm’s length bodies to be abolished.