

PCT, NHS Trust and Foundation Trust Chief Executives
SHA Directors of Finance
SHA Directors of Commissioning
British Association of Sexual Health & HIV
Faculty of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare

2 September 2010

Gateway No: 14766

Dear Colleague,

This letter seeks to confirm the future direction of the development of a national tariff for integrated sexual health services on the platform of the London Sexual Health Programme tariff development work.

The “Options for the Future of Payment by Results”¹ consultation exercise launched on 15 March 2007 encouraged local areas to apply to be development sites to pilot and evaluate local currencies for services outside the scope of the national tariff.

As a result, Portsmouth City Teaching PCT (sponsored by NHS South Central) piloted the development of a national PbR tariff in the area of contraception which forms part of the services they provide.

The first phase of the project saw Portsmouth PCT working closely with the London Sexual Health Programme (LSHP) that is piloting the development of a London sexual health tariff, including proposed pricing and currencies for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Levels 1 and 2, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Levels 1 to 3 and integrated STI / SRH care.

¹ Options for the future of Payment by Results: 2008/09 to 2010/11
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_073103

After a successful evaluation of the first phase of the project by PricewaterhouseCoopers², the Department's PbR and sexual health policy teams agreed that London Sexual Health Programme would carry on with the tariff development work into the second phase. This would include the development of Genito Urinary Medicine (GUM) pathways and pricing proposals to cover GUM Clinic STI services at Level 1 to 3.

As part of the second phase of the project, we have agreed that non London Trusts would sense check and validate the work, including the proposed costing models, tariff prices and activity datasets as these are intended to inform future national currencies and subsequent tariffs. The London Sexual Health tariff team with involvement from the Health Protection Agency (HPA), The British Association of Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and the Department of Health PbR team are currently reviewing the activity datasets and addressing outstanding coding issues.

We will be writing to those Trusts that have expressed an interest in this exercise in the week commencing 20 September 2010, to be followed with a meeting in early October to scope the work and address issues where applicable. The meeting would involve representatives of the London project, the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and the Department of Health PbR team.

We hope this provides a summary of the future direction of national tariff development for integrated sexual health services. Should you have any query regarding this letter, please contact Ade Adekaiyaoja, project lead for sexual health PbR development on adebayo.adekaiyaoja@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Campbell
Deputy Director,
PbR Development



Andrea Duncan
Sexual Health Programme Manager

² National Evaluation of PbR Development Sites
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/www.dh.gov.uk/en/Managingyourorganisation/Financeandplanning/NHSFinancialReforms/DH_083408?PageOperation=email