



Locally Commissioned Service Framework – Winter Pressures

6 November 2017

We have had a number of queries from GP practices regarding the updates to the Locally Commissioned Services Framework (LCSF) in Southern Derbyshire CCG, particularly the funding for Winter Pressures.

Practices raised concerns that there was no separate winter pressures budget this year and that the funding had been effectively recycled from the LCSF using 'unallocated' monies. DDLMC was concerned about certain aspects of funding being removed from the LCSF, with the suggestion that this work was now 'custom and practice'; a term that does not fit in with either GMS or PMS contracts. Finally, we continue to feel that the Treatment Room aspect of the LCSF doesn't accurately cover the full costing of providing these services and there is a marked difference in the funding compared with equivalent enhanced services elsewhere in the county.

Representatives from SDCCG and the new interim Director of Primary Care Development for Derbyshire, Clive Newman, attended last week's DDLMC meeting to discuss the reasoning behind SDCCG's decision.

SDCCG representatives explained that, unlike previous years, there is no central budget for winter pressures, nor money from within SDCCG that is free to be put aside for this. SDCCG acknowledge this is disappointing for practices, but have tried to create a system without onerous returns, to ensure that the money remains in General Practice and does not get absorbed into Derbyshire's financial black hole.

DDLMC acknowledges the pressures on CCGs and the work done by clinical leads to maintain this money within general practice. However, this is an overall loss to general practice and practices will already be working flat out to provide services across the winter period. Unfortunately, due to the financial climate across the whole NHS there is no plan to change the scheme.

However, as we move forwards to looking at commissioning patient care across the whole county we have had a number of assurances from Clive and the team that should ensure a fairer deal for practices in the future:

1. An understanding that 'custom and practice' is not an acceptable approach to make practices do more for less
2. That costings for services should be appropriate and equitable across the county, for example; using the [PSSRU](#) data as the basis of calculations
3. That engagement with General Practice, which includes DDLMC, is imperative at an early stage to get things right for practices.

For further information, or to arrange an interview, please contact:
Dr Susie Bayley, Head of Communications, Derby and Derbyshire LMC



Above all, there is an agreement that general practice providers need a powerful, unified voice.

Whilst this is not the ideal outcome, there is acknowledgement from all parties that we need improved communication between providers and commissioners. We are encouraged that this represents a line in the sand and should improve engagement with general practice in the future.

Dr Peter Williams
Chair
Derby and Derbyshire Local Medical Committee

For further information, or to arrange an interview, please contact:
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