

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PARTNERSHIP FORUM PAPER FOR INFORMATION

LOCAL MODERNISATION STAGE 2 PROGRESS REPORT

1. Introduction

Following the completion of Stage 1 of the Local Modernisation Review (LMR) process and the identification of high-risk areas from the NHS Plan targets, the local health and social care community are now actively working on Stage 2. The Stage 2 process has a formal reporting point at the end of November when a report (with associated action plans) has to be submitted to the Regional Office of the National Health Service Executive. The action plans in particular will contain detail on how the NHS plan targets in high-risk areas are to be met locally through a combination of redesign of services to better meet patients needs within the current resources allocated to provide the service and additional investment. This information will feed directly into the Service and Financial Framework (SaFF) process for 2002/03.

However, the major aim of Stage 2 is that it is intended to be seen as the start of a longer-term process of cultural change within the National Health Service and partners. The intention is to make the process of:

- analysing how services work
- how they might be better designed around the patient,

part of the everyday culture.

Stage 2 directly challenges the assumption that just doing 'more of the same' is good enough.

2. Process

Within Buckinghamshire the LMR Stage 2 is being run on a devolved locality basis. Each of the two localities teams, involving people from local Primary Care Organisations, Trusts and partners are developing detailed action plans for the high-risk areas that they identified through LMR Stage 1.

The Health Authority in its co-ordinating role has issued guidance on what the minimum expectations for Stage 2 action plans, in terms of content.

The Health Authority also meets on a regular basis with each of the locality teams to assess and discuss progress towards the completion of the action plans. These meetings are also used to ensure that the action plans produced reflect a sense of realism about the amount of money likely to be available for new investment in the coming financial round.

3. Linking the LMR to the Money

One of the key measures of success for the LMR process as a whole is going to be the impact that it has on patterns of investment in the coming financial planning round (and in future years). An issue in the past has been the limited impact that the Health Improvement Programme (HIMP) priorities have had on the investment priorities as reflected in the financial planning round.

To draw together the various strands of the planning process with the financial planning round an Integrated Planning Group (IPG) has been established. This group has locality representatives from the localities, together with, for example, service leads representing some of the high-risk areas. The idea behind this is to ensure that the financial planning round is

properly informed of the priorities coming forward from the planning process, but also that those involved in the planning process properly understand the financial constraints within which the health economy will be operating in the coming year.

4. Conclusion

The Local Modernisation Review is a complex process to be undertaken within a very tight timescale. Stage 2 of the process, which has a formal reporting point at the end of November, is now well underway across Buckinghamshire and by the time the Buckinghamshire Partnership Forum meets will be concluding. This signals the start of a new way of looking at patient services and how they can best be designed to match the needs of the patient.

5. Recommendation

The Buckinghamshire Partnership Forum is requested to:

- **Note the continued progress of the Local Modernisation Review process across Buckinghamshire**
- **Accept a subsequent report at the Forums January meeting.**

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