

Appendix 2

North Durham CCG assurance report

Headline assessment – Assured

Focus	Assurance level	Particular achievements noted / examples of good practice	Issues identified	Any issues identified requiring further action and actions agreed
Are patients receiving clinically commissioned, high quality service?	Assured	<p>All member practices had the opportunity to put ideas forward for provider Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) schemes, increased participation compared to previous years</p> <p>7 Day working pilot, including weekend working, has been successful in reducing attendances at Accident & Emergency.</p>	Ongoing challenges recognised in relation to Accident and Emergency, Delayed Transfers of care and ambulance handover performance at County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust, with North Durham and other Clinical Commissioning Groups taking a more proactive approach with Foundation Trust provider.	Continue the robust challenge and dialogue with County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust to instigate sustained cultural and performance changes.
Are patients and the public actively engaged and involved?	Assured	Recognised the positive recent development of Healthwatch, including the shared meeting arrangements with Durham Dales Easington and Sedgfield (DDES) Clinical Commissioning Group and Durham Health and Well being Board. Plus more substantial input into the Engagement Steering Group	The development of Healthwatch has taken time and is now more established following its first year.	

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		Positive work in relation to patient involvement, with a 250 strong membership scheme.		
Are CCG plans delivering better outcomes for patients?	Assured	The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is delivering improved outcomes within financial resources, supported by clear and credible plans which are in line with national requirements (including excellent outcomes), and local Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies.	<p>Noted the increased effort to better understand the response behind the current performance for 62 day cancer.</p> <p>Fully recognises both the challenges and opportunities presented by the Better Care Fund (BCF).</p>	<p>Continue the ongoing focus in order to improve the 62 day cancer target collectively working with the Area Team and Region.</p> <p>Consider the scope to be more ambitious in the future iteration of the Better Care Fund.</p>
Does the CCG have robust governance arrangements?	Assured	North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group has effective and appropriate constitutional, corporate, clinical and information governance arrangements in place, with the capacity and capability to deliver all its duties and responsibilities, including financial control, as well as effectively commission all the services for which it is responsible.		

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<p>Are CCGs working in partnership with other?</p>	<p>Assured</p>	<p>Positive recognition of the progress since Quarter 2 with many going from strength to strength, especially the Unit of Planning with DDES and Durham County Council.</p> <p>Monthly collaborative commissioner meetings take place between North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield CCGs, along with Darlington CCG and North East Commissioning Support.</p> <p>Strong arrangements for safeguarding adults and children which North Durham CCG continue to host)</p>	<p>Maintaining relationships with providers in challenging times</p>	<p>Ensure that the Urgent Care Working Group continues to develop in terms of its clinical input and overall effectiveness.</p>
<p>Does the CCG have strong and robust leadership?</p>	<p>Assured</p>	<p>Organisational Development plan has been refreshed</p> <p>Designated clinical leads and focus on main areas, urgent care, planned care, primary care, Long Term Conditions, frail elderly</p> <p>Use of North East Leadership Academy clinical fellows</p>	<p>Challenges associated with succession planning, in particular the Chair (Kate Bidwell retiring September 2014).</p>	