

NHS Call to Action

The purpose of this report is to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of the publication of NHS England's "A Call to Action" and the roles of CCGs and Health and Wellbeing Boards to work in partnership during the 2014/15 planning round and development of CCGs' five year vision and strategies.

In July 2013, NHS England published 'A Call to Action' (www.england.nhs.uk/2013/07/11/call-to-action). It set out the challenges facing the NHS, including more people living longer with more complex conditions, increasing costs whilst funding remains flat and rising expectation of the quality of care. The document says clearly that the NHS must change to meet these demands and make the most of new medicines and technology and that it will not contemplate reducing or charging for core services.

The launch of the Call to Action document heralded a period of engagement to be led by CCGs in their local communities to enable them to have an open and honest conversation about the challenges ahead to help them to develop five year strategies and two year commissioning plans, as part of the yearly NHS planning process which runs from the Autumn through to signed off plans at the end of March 2014.

NHS England has produced a slide pack which outlines the roles of the National Support Centre, NHS England Regional and Area Teams, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Health and Wellbeing Boards. The slides relating to CCGs and Health and Wellbeing Boards are attached in Appendix A.

Members are asked to note NHS England's suggestions for the role of Health and Wellbeing Board, namely :

- Understanding specific communities to engage
- Agreeing how integrated budgets will contribute towards strategic plans
- Ensuring community needs and requirements are covered in the plan development at a local health economy level
- Taking the opportunity to work in partnership with CCGs to be an integral part of the Call to Action and planning process.