
D I R E C T I O N S

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The Commissioning Plan Direction (Northern Ireland) 2010

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety makes the following Direction in exercise of the powers conferred by section 8(3) of the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009(a):

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Direction may be cited as the Commissioning Plan Direction (Northern Ireland) 2010 and shall come into operation on 24 May 2010.

(2) In this Direction—

“HSC Trusts” means the Health and Social Care Trusts established under Article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;

“the Act” means the Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009;

“LCG” means a Local Commissioning Group appointed as a committee by the Regional Health and Social Care Board under paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Act;

“Regional Agency” means the Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well being established under section 12 of the Act;

“Regional Board” means the Regional Health and Social Care Board established under section 7 of the Act.

Health and Social Care which the Regional Board is to include in its commissioning plan.

2. – (1) The commissioning plan to be prepared and published by the Regional Board as required under section 8(3) of the Act shall provide an overview of its commissioning intentions for health and social care services for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 across each of the priority areas set out below and associated standards and targets defined within these in Priorities for Action 2010-11:

- (a) Improve the health status of the population and reduce health inequalities
- (b) Ensure services are safe and sustainable, accessible and patient-centred
- (c) Integrate primary, community and secondary care services
- (d) Help older people to live independently
- (e) Improve children’s health and well-being

- (f) Improve mental health services and services for people with disabilities
- (g) Ensure financial stability and the effective use of resources

- (2) The commissioning plan shall contain the following sections:

- (a) Strategic Context – the environmental factors influencing the future direction of travel for service development and design, taking account of the strategic policies and priorities set by the Department;
- (b) Regional and local commissioning priorities;
- (c) Public involvement in the commissioning of services;
- (d) Specific commissioning intentions for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 to deliver on each of the ministerial priority areas and standards and targets set;
- (e) Financial management and effective use of resources

- (3) The commissioning plan shall fully reflect and be consistent with extant Departmental strategies and policies including Investing for Health Strategy, Young Peoples Drinking Action Plan, Hidden Harm Action Plan, Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Sexual Health Promotion Strategy , Safety First: A Framework for Sustainable Improvement in the HPSS, Families Matter and Care Matters, Co-Operating to Safeguard Children, Bamford Action Plan, Acquired Brain Injury Action Plan and ASD Strategic Action Plan.

Costs incurred in commissioning

3. The commissioning plan shall include details of how the total resources of £3,653.2m (£3,582.8m Regional Board resources and £70.4m Regional Agency resources) for the financial year from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 have been committed to the HSC Trusts or other persons or bodies, from which the Regional Board is to commission health and social care. This information shall be provided separately for each of the five LCGs and for services commissioned regionally by the Regional Board and the Regional Agency in the manner specified by the Department in its budget allocation letter.

General

4. The commissioning plan shall have due regard to extant policy guidelines and the specific requirements set out in the ministerial Priorities for Action and the Department's budget allocation letter for 2010/11.

5. The Regional Board, must, in drawing up the commissioning plan, consult the Regional Agency and have due regard to any advice or information provided by it and must not publish the commissioning plan unless approved by the Regional Agency.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on 24 May 2010.



A senior officer of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety