

Sustainability and Transformation Plans

A major new development in commissioning health and care

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Briefing Aim:

Explain Sustainability and Transformation Plans and their importance in delivering the NHS Five Year Forward View.

Highlight how the six principles to support delivery of the NHS Five Year Forward View can help the voluntary and community sector get involved in developing the plans.

April 2016

What Sustainability and Transformation Plans are and why they matter

July 2016 sees the deadline for the production of **Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP's)** - joint NHS provider, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Local Authorities, and other health and care services (including VCSE partner) plans for 44 'footprint' geographical areas across England. These will form the basis for **long term, place based** planning and commissioning of services.

Their aim is to 'drive genuine and sustainable transformation in health and care outcomes' and to build and strengthen local relationships, and enable development of a shared understanding of the steps needed to deliver [NHS Five Year Forward View](#). Their focus is on enabling 'transformative change' for better health and wellbeing outcomes, improved quality of care, and 'stronger NHS finance and efficiency'.

The NHS Five Year Forward View highlighted the importance of the Voluntary and Community Sector so there is a real opportunity for us to have a say in this process. **Timings are tight** so we need to encourage our local health and care partners to talk to us and build relationships.

Background to Sustainability and Transformation Plans

In [Delivering the Forward View](#) the national health and care bodies* identify their major 'national challenges' as how to:

- close the health and wellbeing gap
- drive transformation and close the care and quality gap
- close the finance and efficiency gap

They also emphasise the need to focus on 'prevention and care redesign'. STP's are seen as a way of bringing together health and social care at the most locally relevant geographical level (including mirroring existing 'devolution' areas) and aligning the plans of partner organisations in that area.

Next steps

More information is provided in the planning guidance -

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/planning-guid-16-17-20-21.pdf>

Maps of the 44 'footprint' geographies are included in the NHSE document:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/stp-footprints-march-2016.pdf>

These documents will help you identify how best to get involved in your area. The best approach may be to use the 'Six Principles' (created to support the delivery of the Five Year Forward View and incorporated into the planning guidance) to help identify your offer and talk to CCG's or other health and care partners you already have working relationships with.

The '**Six Principles**' for new care models created to support the delivery of the NHS Five Year Forward View:

1. Care and support is person-centred: personalised, coordinated, and empowering
2. Services are created in partnership with citizens and communities
3. Focus is on equality and narrowing inequalities
4. Carers are identified, supported and involved
5. Voluntary, community and social enterprise and housing sectors are involved as key partners and enablers
6. Volunteering and social action are recognised as key enablers

Deadlines are tight – STP's need to be submitted by June for agreement in July – so it is important to get involved as soon as possible. The most 'compelling and credible' plans, which will receive the earliest additional funding, will be judged on the reach and quality of the local process – including voluntary and community sector and local authority engagement.

More information on the NHS Five Year Forward View is available at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/futurenhs/>

**NHS England • NHS Improvement (Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority) • Health Education England (HEE) • The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) • Public Health England (PHE) • Care Quality Commission (CQC)*

Further Information

To find out more about Regional Voices' work in health, wellbeing and care visit <http://www.regionalvoices.org>

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