



Standards for Better Health 2008/09





Background

- Outlined in National Standards, Local Action: Health & Social Care Standards and Planning Framework (DH, July 2004)
- Key objectives of framework:
 - Provide assurance that NHS organisations meeting essential quality and safety standards
 - Value for money
 - Continuous improvement





Process for 2008/09

- Significant changes to HCC's structure
- Separate reporting on performance of PCTs as providers and commissioners
- Separate criteria published for both
- Reflects Operating Framework for 2008/09: required PCTs to have separate internal structure for commissioning and providing





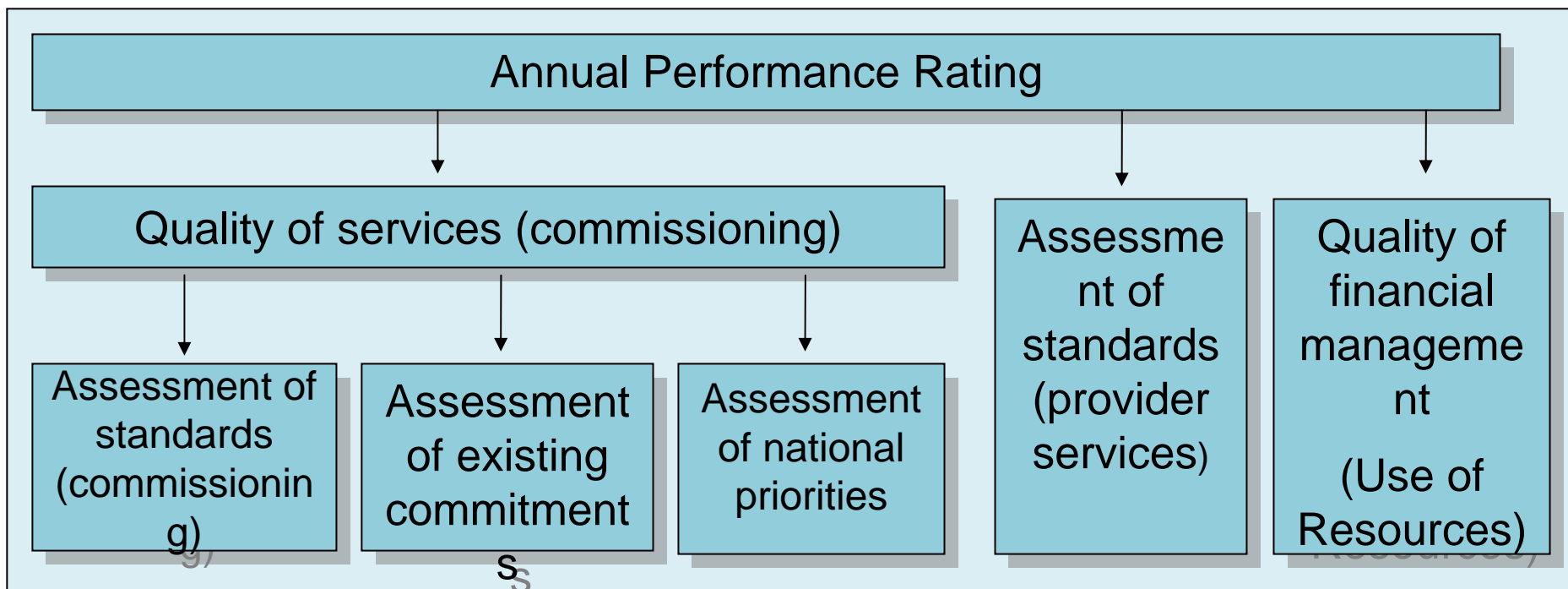
Declarations

- Separate declarations for provider & commissioner
- Declaration as commissioners will include corporate & commissioning activities, as well as quality of commissioned services & independent contractors
- Each declaration will be scored separately
- Commissioning score only will feed into quality of services score





AHC Structure for 2008/09





Provider criteria

- Limited changes to criteria, much the same as in previous years
- Main change – declare against C3 (interventional procedures)
- Some criteria rewritten for greater clarity, more explicit rationale
- Some additional elements to reflect changes in national guidance, statutory codes of practice etc





Commissioning criteria

- Significant changes to criteria
- 3 perspectives:
 - Commissioners as corporate bodies: i.e. standards as they apply to any organisation, regardless of function, e.g. HR, E&D, recruitment etc
 - Commissioning functions: i.e. standards that are relevant to PCT's commissioning function, i.e. how we commission.
 - Quality & safety of commissioned services: i.e. PCT's role in relation to services we commission





NHS SoTW process

- Separate director and operational leads for provider and commissioner where appropriate
- Corporate lead where appropriate function same across both provider and commissioner, e.g. HR
- Strategic Corporate Assessment Steering group established
- Separate provider and commissioning sub-groups
- 4-weekly reporting/monitoring by director team





NHS SoTW process

- Monthly reporting to Integrated Risk & Governance Committee
- Mid-year assessment of compliance undertaken
- Outcome reviewed by director team
- Challenge event in January – test robustness of evidence/highlight areas for further action
- Internal Audit review of our approach to gain assurance on compliance and consistency (outcome awaited)





NHS SoTW Position

Provider standards: full compliance across all provider specific standards with the following exception:

- C9 – records management: update to be given at meeting
- C11b – Mandatory training: lack of assurance around attendance at safeguarding training from April – Feb 2008. Training taking place, but lack of assurance of complete recording at levels 2 upwards. Systems put in place to address this.





NHS SoTW Position

Commissioning standards (commissioning activities and corporate perspective): full compliance across all relevant standards with the following exceptions:

- C1a – incident reporting: lack of assurance around the learning from incidents element. Learning has taken place across the PCTs, however formal reporting not robust from April to November 2008. Learning Review Group has been strengthened and full review underway of operational risk procedures.
- C2 – safeguarding children: update to be given at meeting





NHS SoTW Position

Commissioning standards (commissioning activities and corporate perspective): full compliance across all relevant standards with the following exceptions:

- C9 – records management: update to be given at meeting
- C11b – mandatory training: lack of assurance around attendance at safeguarding training from April – Feb 2008. Training taking place, but lack of assurance of complete recording at levels 2 upwards. Systems put in place to address this.





NHS SoTW Position

Commissioning standards: quality of commissioned services perspective (applies to all standards)

- Sufficient assurance that appropriate mechanisms are in place to identify and respond to significant concerns with regards to commissioned services
- Sufficient assurance that reasonable steps have been taken with regards to independent contractors in respect to the relevant elements of the standards.



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Summary

- Very difficult and complex process for this year
- Places significant emphasis on us as commissioners as did World Class Commissioning
- Reflects the direction of travel nationally
- Rigorous approach taken across NHS SoTW to strengthen and develop skills as commissioners as well as continue to provide high quality, safe services for our local populations





Questions?



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