



Healthier Together Sponsoring Board meeting paper front sheet

Agenda Item: 6

Title	BNSSG CCG Ethical Framework for Decision-Making
Date of meeting	21 January 2019
Author	Adwoa Webber, Head of Clinical Effectiveness, BNSSG CCG
Sponsor / Director	Peter Brindle, Medical Director – Clinical Effectiveness, BNSSG CCG
Presenter	Adwoa Webber
Purpose: Decision / Discussion / Information	Information and endorsement
Previously discussed / endorsed at (Group / forum)	BNSSG CCG Governing Body has approved the CCG Ethical Framework for CCG Decision-Making

Purpose:

To share the final BNSSG CCG Ethical Framework for Decision-Making with Healthier Together partners.

Issue / summary:

In carrying out its responsibility to plan and buy health and care services for the population of Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG), BNSSG Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will inevitably have to make difficult decisions. The reasons that some decisions are difficult include:

- Demand for healthcare exceeds the NHS's ability to supply services
- The CCG has a legal duty to break even
- There are competing specialties
- There are competing populations / health needs
- Decision making is complex due to local need, available resources, funding opportunities, need for savings, sources of information, national policy, available evidence
- We often have imperfect information about our existing populations; services and; the evidence about the outcomes of interventions or services

The BNSSG CCG Ethical Framework for Decision Making, enclosed with meeting papers, describes the principles that we will use when making commissioning decisions.

Each of the principles will be considered fully and equally in every case. The framework is not a decision-making tool nor the process for decision making. The principles will not be used as a checklist or criteria to be met before a decision can be made.

We developed the Ethical Framework for Decision Making by looking at the frameworks used by other CCGs and we have taken advice from legal, public health and ethics experts. We engaged with stakeholders, including all the Healthier Together partners and community and voluntary sector representatives, on the draft during November and early December 2018.

BNSSG CCG Governing Body approved the Ethical Framework for Decision-Making at its meeting on 8 January 2019. Further details can be found at https://media.bnssgccg.nhs.uk/attachments/govbody_8Jan19_Item9.1.pdf

Recommendations:

- The Healthier Together Sponsoring Board is asked to note the BNSSG CCG Ethical Framework for Decision-Making.