

Health Scrutiny Support Programme

Joint Commissioning in the context
of Practice-based Commissioning

Outline of presentation

What is joint commissioning?

Joint commissioning of social care

Examples of good practice

Issues for OSCs

What is joint commissioning?

- Health and/or social care services jointly commissioned by NHS and social services
- Includes use of Section 31 (Health Act 1999) and Section 10 (Children Act 2004) eg pooled budgets, lead commissioning and joint appointments
- (Local Area Agreement) funding streams may include jointly commissioned services
- A holistic approach to health needs, prevention and early intervention

Joint commissioning of social care

- PBC should be underpinned by joint social care and health needs assessment including well being
- PBC planning should include social care to:
 - track care pathways
 - minimise duplication
 - identify areas where GPs can commission from social services
 - tackle prevention and health inequalities issues

Examples of good practice

- Social care membership on all PCT locality groups
- Joint health profiles eg for long-term conditions
- PCT and Social care commissioning carried out under single pooled budget
- A LAA on joint preventative services
- Using PBC to set up community teams with health and social care staff

Issues for OSCs

- What will happen to existing joint partnership arrangements?
- Have practices identified partnership opportunities for PBC?
- Are local structures “fit for purpose”?
- How will joint commissioning work under PBC across LA boundaries?
- Arrangements for political, financial and managerial accountability
- Arrangements for partnership working within LSPs and LAAs