

Nov – Dec 2019

Joint and Cross Commissioning

Why?

- **26 Joint commissioning arrangements**
- (1) A local authority in England and its partner commissioning bodies must make arrangements (“joint commissioning arrangements”) about the education, health and care provision to be secured for—
 - (a) children and young people for whom the authority is responsible who have special educational needs, and
 - (b) children and young people in the authority’s area who have a disability.
- (2) In this Part “education, health and care provision” means—
 - (a) special educational provision;
 - (b) health care provision;
 - (c) social care provision

- (3) Joint commissioning arrangements must include arrangements for considering and agreeing—
- (d) what advice and information is to be provided about education, health and care provision;
- (e) by whom, to whom and how such advice and information is to be provided;

Compliance and Sustainability

- Statutory duties on LAs for the provision of an IASS are significant and will cost more than is currently spent...
- Need to ensure that whatever happens with national funding that there is access to an impartial, arms length and discreet service for children, young people and their parents on education, health and social care
- Only way to do this is joint and cross commissioning

- A joint arrangement may be a formal agreement between a local authority (ies) and a clinical commissioning group. This may include a procurement or tendering process that is jointly managed and results in a contract with one or more service providers.
- A joint arrangement may also take the form of an agreement between a local authority (ies), clinical commissioning group and any other relevant parties to secure impartial IASS through in-house provision.
- Easy win – relatively small amounts of money, big impact, excellent look...

What else exists locally?

*“The joint arrangements that local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups **must** have for commissioning education, health and care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities **must** include arrangements for considering and agreeing what information and advice about education, health and care provision is to be provided. These joint arrangements should consider the availability of other information services in their area (services such as youth services, Local HealthWatch, the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) and the Family Information Service) and how the services will work together.”*

[SEND Code 2.7]

Commissioning across local areas

- Collaboration across local authority boundaries. Some providers (both in-house and outsourced) already offer IASS to two or more local authorities as part of a joint arrangement between local authorities.
- Offer economies of scale and improve service range or viability – especially where services may otherwise be very small.

Commissioning across local areas

- Benefit of things having not been done before – can try all different things...
- Sharing a strategic manager
- Sharing CYP or other staff
- Sharing health/social care specialists
- Joint website/information/helpline

What does the picture look like now?

- Huge progress comparably and lots of conversations...
- But numbers still low...
- We have examples of SLAs based on the Minimum Standards from 2 LAs, one in-house and one out-sourced – please use, don't re-invent the wheel...
- Bristol, BAINES, Hampshire, NE...

What to do?

Talk.....

Find the right people

Ask other services/LAs/CCGs

Talk to parent and CYP groups

Resource on its own is not enough to provide a good service, but without it, it's impossible.