

Finance workstream: Terms of reference

South London Pathfinder programme: Finance workstream

Overall function:

- Financial oversight of the Pathfinder programme including the development and recommendation of best practice to provide local financial stability, manage financial risk, maximise opportunities and share learning.

Membership

JOINT CHAIR:

- Neil McDowell, Director of Finance – SWL Place, SWL ICB
- Ben Sturgess, Director of Commissioning Finance & Planning, SEL ICB

MEMBERSHIP:

- Damien O'Brien, GSTT
- Richard Jeffery, NHSE London Region
- Debbie Chambers, SE Region
- Harry Turner, NHSE National team
- Nick Molle, SEL ICB

IN ATTENDANCE

- To be confirmed

MEETING FORMAT

- Monthly 90 minute meetings to be held
- Supported by the South London Pathfinder Programme, programme manager
- Papers to distributed no later than three working days prior to meeting
- Additional meetings may be held on an extraordinary basis when required.
- Additional agreement by correspondence can be made in between meetings by the core members of the group.
- An action point summary will be produced following the meeting.

KEY INTERFACES

- SWL and SEL ICS Chief Financial Officers
- NHSE London Region and National Specialised Commissioning finance, BI and contracting leads
- Pathfinder BI and Contracting workstreams

Function (22/23 & 23/24)

1. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT:

- Planning the safe transition of specialised commissioning spend to ICB ledgers
- Testing of accounting, cashflow and other national standard operating procedures (SOPs).

2. DATA ASSURANCE

- Testing attribution of current specialised financial flows across ICB populations and retained National/ Regional commissioning arrangements, including clear articulation by Trust, by service and by population.
- In depth work across NHSE, ICBs and providers to test comparability of service line reporting and costing ('like for like').

3. FINANCIAL & CONTRACTUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Recommendation of processes for in-year review of disaggregation to ensure cost neutrality going forward.
- Overseeing the development of specialist Indicative Activity Plans (IAPs) for South London providers, shadow monitoring against IAPs and wider specialised commissioning reporting.
- Testing the operation of Elective Recovery Fund (ERF) for specialist services, linkages to Trust and System Patient Tracking Lists (PTLs) and the impact of EPIC implementation.
- Ongoing financial oversight of pilot funding approaches and preparing ground for transformation opportunities (including whole pathway costing).
- Development of medium term financial planning for specialised services including assessment of the impact of national allocation and funding flow changes.

4. WAYS OF WORKING AND SHARING LEARNING

- Development of matrix team approaches across organisations (providers, ICBs, Regional & National Teams) and across multi-disciplinary teams (contracting, BI, finance).
- Recommendation of national finance and contractual arrangements for 2024/25.
- Development of lessons learned documentation for national teams, Regions and ICBs.