

Local Authority Self-Assessment: 0-5 Public Health Commissioning Transfer

Results tables for North West

April 2015



Local Authority Self-Assessment: 0-5 Public Health Commissioning Transfer

Introduction

On 1st October 2015 the responsibility for commissioning public health services for 0-5 year olds will move from NHS England to local government. This will mark the final part of the public health transfer which saw wider responsibilities successfully transfer to local government in 2013.

The Local Government Association (LGA) is supporting councils to prepare for the transfer. It recently wrote to all upper tier local authorities inviting them to complete an online self-assessment exercise. Its purpose was to develop a collective picture of progress, highlight outstanding barriers that require national resolution, identify what support is needed by local partners and identify examples of good practice.

Nine Regional Oversight Groups (ROG) were set up by the LGA to provide support and local oversight of the transfer. Each group is led by the local government lead for that region and includes representation from local authorities, NHS England and Public Health England local teams and the LGA. The ROGs played a key role in the self-assessment exercise by helping to facilitate and support local discussions, providing support and agreeing an overall assessment of their region's progress. This report summarises the results for the North West and includes additional commentary from the Regional Oversight Group.

Results tables for North West

Respondents were asked how confident they were that the arrangements for managing the transition in their locality were clear and achievable. All councils were either very or fairly confident that this was the case. The Regional Oversight Group (ROG) agreed that the results accurately reflected the region's position. PHE and NHS England are working closely with local authorities to pre-empt and mitigate issues that have arisen. Specific issues between local partners are being worked through locally to achieve a safe transfer.

Table 1: How confident are you that the arrangements for managing the transition in your locality are clear and achievable?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	23	100
Very confident	13	57
Fairly confident	10	43
Not very confident	0	0
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked to what extent they were currently working with a) NHS England (formerly known as Area Teams) and b) their provider(s) to ensure commissioning arrangements for the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme will be fully operational in their council from 1st October 2015. All councils were working to a great or moderate extent with NHS England and all councils were also working to a great or moderate extent with providers.

Table 2: To what extent are you currently working with a) NHS England (formerly known as Area Teams) and b) your provider(s) to ensure commissioning arrangements for the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme will be fully operational in your council from 1st October 2015

	a) NHS England		b) Your provider(s)	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
To a great or moderate extent	23	100	23	100
To a great extent	22	96	18	78
To a moderate extent	1	4	5	22
To a small extent	0	0	0	0
Not at all	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked to what extent a) NHS England and b) their provider(s) were working with them to produce and share legacy and handover documents. All councils were working to a great or moderate extent with NHS England and all councils were also working to a great or moderate extent with providers .

Table 3: To what extent are a) NHS England and b) your provider(s) working with you to produce and share legacy handover documents?

	a) NHS England		b) Your provider(s)	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
To a great or moderate extent	23	100	23	100
To a great extent	13	57	10	43
To a moderate extent	10	43	13	57
To a small extent	0	0	0	0
Not at all	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that the provider(s) from which they will commission 0-5 public health services will be able to discharge their functions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Ninety six per cent (22 councils) were either very or fairly confident. The ROG highlighted that local areas would like some support with developing a list of relevant Health visitor safeguarding KPIs to support the monitoring and quality assurance of the service going forward.

Table 4: How confident are you that the provider(s) from which you will commission 0-5 public health services will be able to discharge their functions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	22	96
Very confident	13	57
Fairly confident	9	39
Not very confident	1	4
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that their council has all the named individuals with responsibility for safeguarding children, including designated professionals and senior leads in place at Local Safeguarding Children Board level. All 23 councils were either very or fairly confident.

Table 5: How confident are you that your council has all the named individuals with responsibility for safeguarding children, including designated professionals and senior leads in place at Local Safeguarding Children Board level?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	23	100
Very confident	20	87
Fairly confident	3	13
Not very confident	0	0
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West):23

Respondents were asked if they had a **funding** agreement in place with their neighbouring council(s) which covers their resident population who are registered out of area. Eighty two per cent (19 councils) said they did not have a funding agreement in place, but eight of those said that this was in progress. The ROG highlighted that concerns about registered and resident populations and boundary issues were raised. In response NHS England has carried out a piece of work with local authorities and providers on the safe transfer of records and case management.

Table 6: Do you have a funding agreement in place with your neighbouring authority(ies) which covers your resident population who are registered out of area?

	Number	Per cent
Yes	2	9
No – but this is in progress	8	35
No – this is not currently in progress	11	48
Don't know	2	9
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked if they had a **performance monitoring** agreement in place with their neighbouring council(s) which covers their resident population who are registered out of area. Ninety one per cent (21 councils) said that they did not have a performance monitoring agreement in place, but seven of those said this was said that this was in progress.

Table 7: Do you have a performance monitoring agreement in place with your neighbouring authority(ies) which covers your resident population who are registered out of area?

	Number	Per cent
Yes	1	4
No – but this is in progress	7	30
No – this is not currently in progress	14	61
Don't know	1	4
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that commissioning arrangements for the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme would be fully operational in their council from 1 October 2015. All councils said they were very or fairly confident that the arrangements would be fully operational.

Table 8: How confident are you that commissioning arrangements for the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme will be fully operational in your council from 1st October 2015?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	100	23
Very confident	19	83
Fairly confident	4	17
Not very confident	0	0
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that their council has appropriate governance arrangements in place to oversee the transition. All but one (22 councils) said they were very or fairly confident that the arrangements were in place.

Table 9: How confident are you that your council has appropriate governance arrangements in place to oversee the transition?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	22	96
Very confident	11	48
Fairly confident	11	48
Not very confident	1	4
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West):23

Respondents were asked if their Health and Wellbeing board had discussed the transfer. Forty eight per cent (11 authorities) said yes they had discussed the transfer, but the remaining fifty two per cent (12 authorities) said this was scheduled for a future meeting.

Table 10: Has your Health and Wellbeing Board discussed the transfer?

	Number	Per cent
Yes	11	48
No – but this is scheduled for a future meeting	12	52
No – this discussion is not currently scheduled	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked to indicate which, if any, people or groups they would share their self-assessment with. All councils stated that they would share the self-assessment with the Director of Public Health and Director of Children's Services.

Table 11: Please indicate which, if any, of the following people and groups you will share this self-assessment with:

	Number	Per cent
Director of public health	23	100
Director of children's services	23	100
Lead member children's services	16	70
Portfolio holder for health	14	61
Relevant scrutiny chair	8	35
Health and wellbeing board	7	30
None of the above	0	0
Don't know	0	0

Note: percentages total to more than 100 per cent, since respondents could select more than one person or group.

Respondents were asked to what extent their council had worked with NHS England (previously called Area Teams), as part of commissioning discussions, to agree commissioning intentions for existing contract(s) that were transferring over to their council. Ninety one per cent (21 authorities) said that they had done so to a great or moderate extent.

Table 12: As part of commissioning discussions, to what extent has your council worked with NHS England (previously called Area Teams) to agree commissioning intentions for existing contract(s) that are transferring over to your council?

	Number	Per cent
To a great or moderate extent	21	91
To a great extent	18	78
To a moderate extent	3	13
To a small extent	2	9
Not at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked to indicate which option for the transfer of contracts from NHS England to councils for contracts that expired at 31 March 2015 their council had taken. Sixty one per cent (14 councils) stated that they would novate contract(s) from NHS England to their council, 26 per cent of respondents (six councils) said they would put in place separate six month contract(s) with the provider and the remaining three councils said that the question was not applicable to them.

Table 13: Which of the following has your council opted to do?

	Number	Per cent
Novate contract(s) from NHS England to your council	14	61
Put in place two similar but separate 6 month contract(s) with the provider. (This option includes one contract for April to September 2015 between NHS England and the provider and another for October 2015 to March 2016 between the local authority and the provider)	6	26
Not applicable	3	13
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked if any of the NHS England contracts that required transferring to their council ran beyond 30 September 2015. Thirty nine per cent (nine councils) said that contracts ran beyond 30 September 2015.

Table 14: Do any of the NHS England contracts that require transferring to your council run beyond 30 September 2015?

	Number	Per cent
Yes	9	39
No	13	57
Don't know	1	4
Total	23	100

Base: (all respondents in North West):23

Those respondents who specified that they did have contracts that ran beyond 30 September 2015 were then asked if their council intended in principle to accept novation of these contracts from NHS England to local authority control with effect from 1 October 2015. All nine of those councils intended to accept novation.

Table 15: Does your council intend, in principle, to accept novation of these contracts from NHS England to local authority control with effect from 1 October 2015?

	Number	Per cent
Yes, we intend to accept novation	9	100
No, we don't intend to accept novation	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	9	100

Base (all respondents in North West who had contracts that ran beyond 30 September 2015):9

Respondents were asked if their council had communicated its intended approach to contract transition to the current children's 0-5 years public health service provider(s). All 23 councils said they had done so.

Table 16: Has your council communicated its intended approach to contract transition to the current children's 0-5 years public health service provider(s)?

	Number	Per cent
Yes	23	100
No – but plans for this are being developed	0	0
No- plans for this have not yet been developed	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked if their council had put plans in place for minimum standardised a) data collection and b) reporting requirements that support the effective commissioning of children's 0-5 years public health services. Forty three per cent of respondents (10 councils) said that they had put plans in place for minimum standardised data collection, but 48 per cent (11 councils) said that plans were in development. Forty three per cent of respondents (10 councils) had put plans in place for reporting requirements that support the effective commissioning of children's 0-5 years public health services, but 48 per cent (10 councils) said that plans were in development.

Table 17: Has your council put plans in place for minimum standardised a) data collection and b) reporting requirements that support the effective commissioning of children's 0-5 years public health services?

	a) data collection		b) reporting requirements	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Yes	10	43	10	43
No – but plans are in development	11	48	11	48
No – plans for this have not yet been developed	2	9	2	9
Don't know	0	0	0	0
Total	23	100	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that the provider(s) from which their council will commission services are taking steps to:

- a) Improve their local management of child health information, making use of Child Health Information Systems (CHIS) and other IT systems where appropriate.
- b) Achieve compliance with the national Maternity and Children's Dataset in order to be able to submit a standard set of data to the Health and Social Care Information Centre from where national and local benchmarked reporting of Key Performance Indicators will flow in the longer term.

Fifty seven per cent (13 councils) were either very or fairly confident that the provider(s) are taking steps to improve their local management of child health information, making use of CHIS and other IT systems where appropriate. Sixty one per cent (14 councils) were either very or fairly confident that the provider(s) are taking steps to achieve compliance.

Table 18: How confident are you that the provider(s) from which your council will commission services are taking steps to: a) Improve their local management of child health information systems (CHIS) and other IT systems where appropriate b) Achieve compliance with the national Maternity and Children's Dataset in order to be able to submit a standard set of data to the Health and Social Care Information Centre from where national and local benchmarked reporting of Key Performance Indicators will flow in the longer term?

	a) Improve CHIS and IT systems		b) Achieve compliance	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	13	57	14	61
Very confident	2	9	3	13
Fairly confident	11	48	11	48
Not very confident	7	30	5	22
Not at all confident	0	0	0	0
Don't know	3	13	4	17
Total	23	100	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that existing contract(s) include the five universal checks and the related children's 0-5 year's public health outcomes. All but one (22 councils) were either very or fairly confident.

Table 19: How confident are you that existing contract(s) include the five mandated universal checks and the related children's 0-5 year's public health outcomes?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	22	96
Very confident	17	74
Fairly confident	5	22
Not very confident	1	4
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents North West): 23

Respondents were asked how confident they were that baseline data about their resident population for the five mandated universal checks was being shared with them prior to 1 October 2015, against which council performance could be measured in the future. Eighty seven per cent (20 councils) were either very or fairly confident.

Table 20: How confident are you that baseline data about your resident population for the five mandated universal checks is being shared with you prior to 1 October 2015, against which council performance can be measured in the future?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly confident	20	87
Very confident	9	39
Fairly confident	11	48
Not very confident	2	9
Not at all confident	0	0
Don't know	1	4
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West): 23

Respondents were asked how they would rate the usefulness of the information that they have received about the transfer. All councils rated the information that they had received as very or fairly useful.

Table 21: How would you rate the usefulness of the information you have received about the transfer?

	Number	Per cent
Very or fairly useful	23	100
Very useful	8	35
Fairly useful	15	65
Not very useful	0	0
Not at all useful	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	23	100

Base (all respondents in North West):23

Respondents were asked to identify which communication routes they normally used to receive information and which they found useful. A majority of respondents received information through bulletins from the professional associations (74 per cent / 17 councils), LGA bulletins (70 per cent / 16 councils) and the Department of Health website (74 per cent / 16 councils). The communication routes found useful by the highest number of councils were the Department of Health website 74 per cent (17

councils) and LGA bulletins and Bulletins from the professional associations, (both 70 per cent / 16 councils).

Table 22: Which of the following communication routes do you normally a) receive information through b) find useful?

	Receive information through		Find useful?	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Bulletins from the professional associations	17	74	16	70
LGA bulletins	16	70	16	70
Department of Health website	16	70	17	74
LGA website	10	43	10	43
Regional oversight groups	7	30	8	35
None of the above	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0

Note: percentages total to more than 100 per cent, since respondents could select more than one communication route.

Local Government Association

Local Government House
Smith Square
London SW1P 3HZ

Telephone 020 7664 3000

Fax 020 7664 3030

Email info@local.gov.uk

www.local.gov.uk

© Local Government Association, April 2015

For a copy in Braille, larger print or audio,
please contact us on 020 7664 3000.
We consider requests on an individual basis.