

## **COMMISSIONING STRATEGY (REVISION)**

### **1.0 Purpose**

To update Board members on the revision to the PCT's Commissioning Strategy document.

To gain approval for the revised Strategy document which has been amended in light of Board members' comments at June Board meeting.

### **2.0 Background**

The Birmingham East & North Primary Care Trust Board signed off the PCT's Commissioning Strategy in March 2007 covering the period April 2008 to March 2010. The Commissioning Strategy has been vital in ensuring focus on the important commissioning issues whilst supporting the key purpose and goals of the PCT.

An audit of the Commissioning Strategy was undertaken by the Birmingham and Sandwell Audit Consortium during the latter part of 2007. The audit provided significant assurance over the adequacy of the arrangement in place to ensure effective commissioning of services within the PCT. However, there were two areas of work which required action:

- a) That the Strategy should reflect a longer period of time, i.e. five years
- b) That the Strategy should be further communicated across the PCT to all staff

During the last twelve months there has been a significant changes in the commissioning landscape, particularly with the introduction of the programme on World Class Commissioning and rather than extend the present strategy and send the strategy out to all teams and staff in the PCT, in its present form it was thought useful to refresh the Commissioning Strategy in view of the significant refocusing on World Class Commissioning and the experience in the use of the strategy over the last twelve months.

### **3.0 Revisions to the Strategy**

A number of revisions have been made to the strategy to take account of National Policy changes and local developments which will span over the next five years. These changes are all significant in the

context of World Class Commissioning and will support the work of the PCT in its aspiration to be a World Class Commissioner.

Although the strategy is not a total rewrite, it has been substantially updated to reflect an enormous amount of change in the last twelve months.

#### **4.0 Conclusion**

The importance of the PCT's commissioning strategy cannot be underestimated. The strategy has guided effectively the commissioning decisions of the PCT over the last twelve months whilst giving clarity to providers in our approach to service development and redesign. This revised strategy now sets out over a longer period the PCT's commissioning approach.

#### **5.0 Recommendations**

- That the Primary Care Trust Board note the report.
- That the Primary Care Trust Board approves the revised strategy.