

LCS/14/3/3

Barnsley CCG Clinical Senate

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mission

The NHS Barnsley Clinical Senate will provide and support strategic clinical leadership and direction to partner organisations across Barnsley on how best to meet the health care needs of the people of Barnsley.

Purpose

To carry out this role the Clinical Senate will;

- Provide clinical direction based on high quality evidence where available on issues of strategic importance to patient care in Barnsley;
- Provide the opportunity to strengthen the clinical voice in strategic planning and decision making;
- Provide a mechanism to enable communication between clinicians, patients and the public across the health care system, on issues of strategic importance;
- Build trust and strengthen the partnership between organisations to meet the challenges of planning, funding and delivering best possible patient outcomes;
- Encourage and enable innovation;
- Respect for the primacy of clinical opinion

The key things that the Clinical Senate has been established to achieve include:

**High quality, timely, safe, consistent, clinically led and cost effective services.
A system for the most appropriate care for the people of Barnsley**

Care closer to home, wherever it is safe and feasible.

Safe and sustainable hospital services

Patient centred care

Collaborative working and joined up services

Innovation and best models of care

Responsibility

The Clinical Senate provides an independent source of clinical direction and advice to ensure the best health care possible for the people of Barnsley. The Senate puts responsibility to patients, the community and professional bodies above responsibility to employing organisations; putting the welfare of patients above organisational or individual self-interest.

Authority

The Senate is independent from and not part of the formal governance and statutory frameworks across the borough. The Senate works as a network of clinicians with mutual accountability for a shared outcome. The Senate therefore has authority to provide direction, advice and support to all organisations involved in the commissioning and delivery of healthcare. The Senate will work with other statutory and decision making frameworks but sees that its role is to push boundaries to ensure the best outcomes for patients and communities.

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles by which the Clinical Senate will work include:

- ▶ Enacting the importance of clinical leadership in commissioning and delivering healthcare;
- ▶ Putting the interests of patients above organisational interests;
- ▶ Harnessing community and patient interests ;
- ▶ Working collaboratively with partners, including the voluntary sector;
- ▶ To encourage innovations, share our vision, give energy, mobilise colleagues, challenge practices and promote change;
- ▶ Focusing on causes rather than symptoms of problems;
- ▶ Provide guidance and overview to the whole system not just each member's individual parts of it.

Reporting

The Clinical Senate will report on its work programme, findings and specific recommendations to each of the organisations responsible for commissioning and delivering healthcare for the people of Barnsley.

Barnsley CCG – To the Governing Body

BHNFT – To the Board and Medical Staffing committee

SWYFT – To the Board

Barnsley Hospice – To the Board

Meetings

The Clinical Senate will meet every 2 months with extra meets scheduled should the need arise.

Clinical Senate Membership

The Clinical Senate will consist of 13 clinical members, 4 members from NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group, 4 members from each from Barnsley Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, 1 from the Hospice together with 1 member from Public Health.

The senate will co-opt members when it needs to seek advice on specific clinical areas.

Chairing

The Medical Director for the CCG will chair the meetings for the first year. There after the chairing will be rotated through each organisation.

Quoracy

The quoracy is set at 8 with each organisation having at least 1 member present. If the minimum numbers are not present then the meeting can still proceed with attempts made to seek views of all electronically.

Venue

The meetings will be held at Barnsley Hospice with admin support provided by the chairing organisation.

Review

The terms of reference will be reviewed in June 2015 and annually from then.

December 2013