

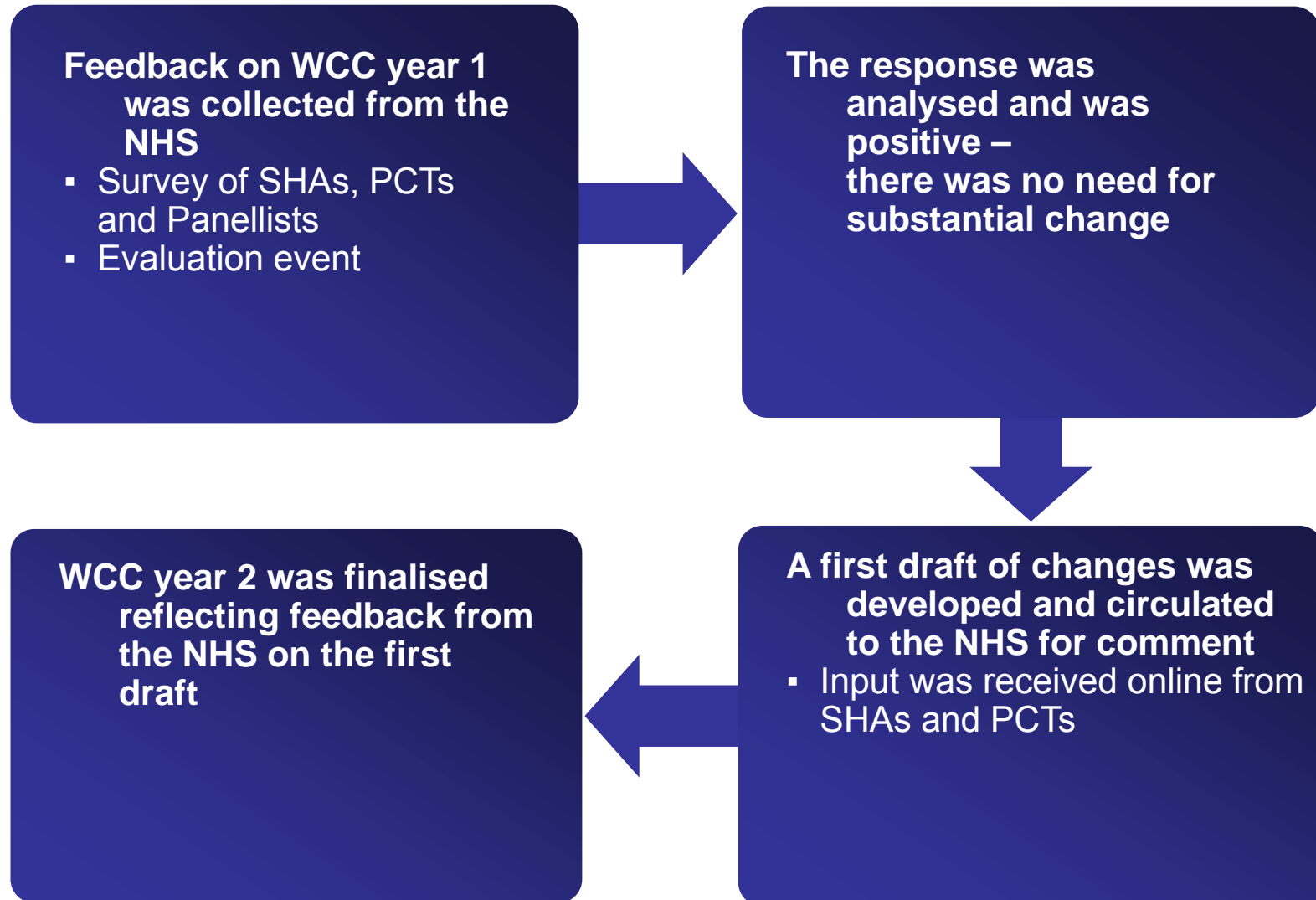
WCC assurance Year 2

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Year 2 of WCC was developed to reflect both NHS feedback . . .



... and changes in the economic context

Potential £20bn gap between 2011-14

Challenge is to increase productivity
and quality at the same time

This is the essence of commissioning

This has resulted in a number of improvements . . .

WCC assurance has been refined, and **slimmed down** to help PCTs **focus on the core activities that underpin WCC assurance** rather than on WCC assurance itself

- 1 **Clearer description** of competencies, and sub-competencies in particular
- 2 **Published criteria** for the assessment of PCTs in all aspects of governance
- 3 **Greater distinction between each rating** in all aspects of governance
- 4 **Improved metrics for outcomes**
- 5 **Comprehensive, online datapacks**
- 6 **A clear, transparent and aligned approach between the three regulatory systems** of the Audit Commission, Care Quality Commission and the Department of Health
- 7 **Better trained, more prepared panellists**
- 8 **More user-friendly and informative web-based assurance toolkit**
- 9 **Requirement for PCTs to signpost evidence** for analysts and analysts to provide more focussed panel information, reducing burden across the system

... other changes

- 1 **Competency 11, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness of spend, is now being assessed** as part of the core competencies
- 2 Competency 6 **requires PCTs to prioritise investment in different financial scenarios**
- 3 PCTs are asked to describe how they will **demonstrate improvements to date and set year-on-year aspirations for the next five years**
- 4 **PCTs will self-assess against all three aspects of governance**
- 5 **Strengthened strategy section**
- 6 **Revised financial template** demonstrating the link between strategy and finance, not a full financial assessment
- 7 **Greater focus on board ownership and responsibility** for managing risk, strategic development and delivery
- 8 **Involvement of PCT chief executives and chairs in wider panel discussions**

We have ensured that WCC fits in with other commissioning arrangements

Collaborative commissioning

- A tailored WCC assurance process has been designed and will evolve as these commissioning arrangements continue to develop

Specialised commissioning

- As these arrangements are implemented at the local level, they are not subject to WCC assurance
- A 'development tool', grounded in WCC, has been designed for local implementation