

Delivering services amidst a new political landscape: the hospice perspective

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What a difference a year makes

- New coalition government
- Drive to eliminate the budget deficit
- Radical transformation of public services
- Expanded role for communities and charities through the Big Society



A contemporary snapshot of hospice care

- UK hospices spent £687m in 2009, £179m comes from the government
- Two-thirds of hospice patients cared for in their own homes
- Increasing demand for hospice care (15% increase in the last four years)
- 64% of PCTs froze funding for hospice care in 2010/11,
 6% cut funding



NHS White Paper – Liberating the NHS

- Substantial reform of the NHS
- Creation of an Independent NHS Commissioning Board
- Devolution of commissioning to GP Consortia
- Abolition of PCTs and SHAs
- Introduction of new outcome measures
- Creation of a regulated 'social market' in health care
- Increased role for local government



Commissioning for patients

Regulating healthcare providers



Commissioning for patients

Regulating healthcare providers



Commissioning for patients

- Consortia should collaborate on commissioning hospice and palliative care
- Hospices have expertise to support GP commissioning
- Commissioning must take an integrated approach
- Hospices as 'co-commissioners'





Commissioning for patients

Regulating healthcare providers



Regulating healthcare providers

- The introduction of a 'social market' for healthcare must not increase the regulatory burden on charities like hospices
- Risk of destabilising existing provision





Commissioning for patients

Regulating healthcare providers



- The shift to outcomes must encompass health and social care
- The outcomes framework must reflect outcomes in palliative care
- There should be a focus on people living with complex comorbidities





Hospice care and the Big Society

- Local hospices provide social capital
- Engaging communities through fundraising and volunteering
- Educating and training the wider workforce
- Raising awareness of death and dying





Hospice care and the Big Society

Hospice care is "one of the great successes of the big society that we have in this country."

Prime Minister David Cameron 30 June 2010





Innovation in hospice care

- Partnerships with other providers, such as care homes
- Expanding new service models for non-malignant disease
- Developing new services, such as domiciliary care





The great unknowns

- Sustaining the priority for palliative and end of life care
- Commissioning of palliative and end of life care
- Implications of a new competitive market
- Funding of hospice and palliative care
- Interface between health and social care