



PRESS STATEMENT

30 March 2016

CQC fee increases equivalent to two nurses per NHS provider over two years

In its response to the Care Quality Commission's publication of its [2016/17 fees scheme](#) for providers, Miriam Deakin, head of policy, NHS Providers, said;

"The Care Quality Commission's (CQC) role in regulating the quality of care is significant in helping acute, mental health, ambulance and community trusts ensure that national standards of safety and quality are met. It is essential that the CQC is appropriately funded to deliver its regulatory duties in a sustainable manner.

"However, the CQC has been required to move to a model of recovering its costs from the providers it regulates as part of a wider government policy. We are yet to be persuaded of the benefits of charging the costs of regulation to frontline organisations, such as NHS providers, where every penny needs to be reinvested in patient care. It is particularly disappointing to hear today that the CQC will move to full cost recovery in just two years. Not only does this go against the majority outcome of their recent consultation, but it comes at a time when the provider sector faces unprecedented financial challenge. The increase in fees will be the equivalent of a trust losing two senior nursing posts over the two years.

"Finally, the sequence of the decision making process between HM Treasury, the Department of Health and the CQC has made meaningful consultation with providers on the proposals difficult.

"It is important the CQC's regulatory model supports trusts across acute, mental health, ambulance and community services in a valid way with minimum burden. We will continue to work with the DH and the CQC on this issue, ensuring the priority remains on delivering a sustainable and valued regulatory approach which benefits providers and the public."

Ends

Notes to editors

About NHS Providers

- NHS Providers is the membership organisation for NHS acute hospitals, community, mental health and ambulance services
- NHS Providers acts as the public voice for those NHS trusts, helping to deliver high quality care by promoting shared learning, providing support and development and shaping the strategic system in which our members operate
- NHS Providers has 94% of all NHS foundation trusts and aspirant trusts in membership
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