

**SHAPING ATTITUDES
CHALLENGING INJUSTICE
CHANGING LIVES**

June 2011

**TRANSFORMING
THE UK'S
RESPONSE
TO HIV**





Current policy priorities for HIV advocacy

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Key policy 'events'

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-  End of the national strategy for sexual health and HIV 2001-2010
-  New Coalition Government
-  Lords Committee inquiry on HIV in the UK
-  UNGASS High Level Meeting June 2011 in New York
-  Planned Government sexual health 'document' Autumn 2011

Reforming NHS, Public Health and Social Care

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-  'Liberating the NHS' consultation on NHS reform
-  'Healthy Lives Healthy People' consultation on Public Service reform
-  'A vision for adult social care' consultation on future of social care
-  NHS Future Forum [outcome of 'the Pause']

Policy 'drivers'

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-  Public expenditure cuts
-  or 'Efficiency savings'
-  Localism agenda
-  Public sector reform
-  Evidence of health benefits of early treatment
-  Evidence of preventive benefits of treatment

NHS reform 'Liberating the NHS'




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-  Initial consultation process completed and key Government response published – main elements being enacted in Health and Social Care Bill. Still immensely controversial
-  80% of NHS secondary care to be commissioned by GP consortia
-  HIV inpatient, outpatient and paediatric treatment and care all to be commissioned by the NHS Commissioning Board

NHS Future Forum proposals











-  'GP consortia' now to be 'Clinical commissioning groups' - wider involvement of other clinicians, nurses and patients - those ready begin work April 2013
-  NHS Commissioning Board have a local presence, host 'clinical senates' and clinical networks
-  Greater authority for Health and Wellbeing Boards, with expectation commissioning plans are in line with HWB strategy

NHS reform – policy questions

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-  How will interests of people with HIV be represented in local Health and Well Being Boards?
-  How will the NHS Commissioning Board commission HIV treatment and care? – role of specialist clinics? role of GPs? Budgets? etc
-  How will clinical commissioning groups commission wider secondary care for HIV positive patients?
-  What impact will cost pressures have on drug regimen decisions?

-  New body 'Public Health England' (PHE) to be established within DH as an executive agency, includes most responsibilities of HPA
-  Ring-fenced public health budget most of which provided to local authorities as a ring-fenced grant to commission health improvement locally
-  Local authorities to commission 'open access sexual health services' – meaning?
-  Public Health Outcomes Framework – one proposed indicator is percentage of people with HIV diagnosed late

Public Health – what we want to see









-  HIV reporting and surveillance standards should be maintained
-  A national HIV prevention programme should be maintained
-  HIV late diagnosis should be retained as an indicator in the final version of the Outcomes Framework
-  Local authorities should be required by PHE to commission 'comprehensive sexual health services', including HIV prevention and testing
-  Risks of fragmentation must be addressed

Social Care

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-  End of ring-fenced AIDS Support Grant, but ...
-  Distinct allocation for HIV social care ('HIV/AIDS support') retained within Formula Grant and increased over next four years
-  Need to make the case for the benefit and cost-effectiveness of HIV social care at the local level
-  Need to ensure relevant outcomes for HIV
-  Need to hold local authorities to account for HIV social care decisions
-  NB high rates of poverty amongst PLWH – see 'Poverty and HIV' NAT/THT 2010

Benefits





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-  New 'Employment Support Allowance' for those out of work due to disability or ill-health, accessed via a Work Capability Assessment (WCA)
-  Planned changes to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in Welfare Reform Bill – to be replaced by Personal Independence Payments (PIP)
-  WCA needs to better assess HIV, fluctuating conditions, poor mental health, impact of stigma
-  Concerns about 12-month cap on contribution-based ESA
-  NB high rates of poverty amongst PLWH – see 'Poverty and HIV 2006-2009' NAT/THT 2010

Other policy developments






-  SaBTO review of permanent ban on MSM and sex workers giving blood
-  Review of occupational restrictions on HIV positive healthcare workers
-  Crown Office consideration of possible guidance on HIV prosecutions in Scotland
-  Continuing work to improve HIV care in prisons and immigration removal centres (NB 'Tackling Blood-Borne Viruses in Prisons' NAT, and plans for IRC audit)

Other policy developments

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-  HIV testing – UK National Guidelines, NICE Guidance recently published for MSM and African communities, DH testing pilots
-  Public awareness – NAT report ‘HIV: Public Knowledge and Attitudes, 2010’ – what should we be telling the general public re HIV?
-  Development of National Standards for Psychological Support of People living with HIV (Faculty of HIV & Sexual Health BPS, BHIVA, MedFASH)

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