

26 January 2016

Dear Colleague

Re: NHS England Primary Care Infrastructure Fund (PCIF) - Update

I am writing to provide an update in regards to the PCIF fund and the current position of those bids received in 2015/16.

Category 1 or 2 Bids

NHS England has worked through a robust due diligence process including:

- Premises Directions eligibility
- Value for money assessment
- Review of revenue consequences
- Gaining the practices agreement to fund their 34%
- Assessment of whether a legal charge needs to be applied

In order to assess the revenue consequences we instructed the District Valuer to undertake an assessment of any impact on notional rent due to the proposed capital works, and this has now been completed. In order to support CCGs determine if any increases in notional rent can be supported papers will be submitted to the relevant Committees for decision (delegated for level 3 CCG's, joint for level 2 and NHS England for level 1). Once a decision has been received from PCC, practices will be informed of the outcome of their bid.

Due to the time required to undertake the due diligence and the requirement for any work to be completed by the 31st March 2016 to enable it to be funded from the 2015/16 budget, any bids from 2015/16 that have not been completed have been allocated as pre commitments against the 2016/17 budget to ensure practices are not disadvantaged.

Category 3 Bids

Those bids assigned a category 3 were the larger schemes which spanned more than 1 financial year or those that required more information. These bids whilst meeting the criteria and being supported in principle were not allocated funding. These bids will therefore need to be considered by CCGs against their estates strategy and strategic direction and if supported submitted in the 2016/17 Primary Care Transformation Fund application round. To support CCGs in undertaking this assessment we have included details of all the bids received in 2015/16 which were agreed as category 3.

2016/17 Primary Care Transformation Fund

The bulk of the funds will be deployed to improve estates, accelerate digital and technological developments in general practice, and will be subject to an initial bidding process. Details of this process are awaited but all bids will need to be submitted by CCGs via a central portal by the end of February 2016.

The recommendations will need to demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Increased capacity for primary care services out of hospital
- Commitment to a wider range of services as set out in your commissioning intentions to reduce unplanned admissions to hospital
- Improving seven day access to effective care
- Increased training capacity

CCG recommendations will be required to reflect their local estates strategies and engagement across the local health economy. Phased funding plans to the 31st March 2019 will also be required to ensure long term affordability.

As soon as any further detail is received on the 2016/17 bidding process we will forward this to CCGs.

In the meantime should you have any queries please contact me at donna.roberts1@nhs.net or 0113 825 4791

Yours sincerely



Donna Roberts
Senior Contracts Manager