

CORE OFFER BUDGET FOR NHS HEALTH CHECKS

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL HAVE TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE AND WHAT DOES IT NEED TO COVER?

Section 12 Health and Social Care Act 2012 outlines a duty for all upper-tier and unitary local authorities in England to take appropriate steps to improve the health of the people who live in their areas.

Part 2 of the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/351) makes provision for the steps to be taken by local authorities in exercising their Public Health functions. In particular:-

- Regulations 4 and 5 relate to the duties of local authorities to provide or make arrangements to provide for health checks for eligible people (depending upon age and health status). The regulations specify the type of information to be recorded. Local authorities must also provide information about dementia to older people.
- Regulation 4 directs that the local authority is required to act 'with a view to securing continuous improvement in the percentage of eligible persons... participating in the health checks' (regulation 4(6))

NHS Health Checks are defined in statute as a Mandated Public Health Service under Section 2B in NHS Act 2006 and as a national programme aims to help prevent heart disease, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease and certain types of dementia in the population through early detection and intervention. Everyone between the ages of 40 and 74, should be invited (once every five years) to have a check to assess their risk of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease and diabetes and will be given support and advice to help them reduce or manage that risk.

In summary, the Council is required by regulation to ensure that all eligible individuals aged 40-74 living in Darlington are provided with a NHS Health once every 5 years. The Council should promote and improve uptake in those eligible and the Council should ensure that the NHS Health Check complies with all relevant guidance and standards.

HOW DOES THE CORE OFFER BUDGET MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS?

The Core Offer Budget will provide those 32,330 individuals who are eligible for an NHS Health Check in Darlington with access to a NHS Health Check over the next 5 years. Around 7500 individuals are invited for a Health Check every year by their GP in Darlington every year

The Core Offer budget is based on population projections of the eligible population and will enable the Council to continue to meet the demand for NHS Health checks at the current levels of activity. This will ensure that the Council will be able to continue to meet its obligations under statute to offer and provide a NHS Health Check to the eligible population over the next 5 years.

The core offer budget also ensures that the Council will still be able to comply with national guidance in relation to the clinical quality standards required by the NHS Health

Checks programme. This includes Section 31 of the 2012 Act which requires local authorities to have regard to guidance from the Secretary of State when exercising their Public Health function and Section 237 of the 2012 Act which also requires local authorities to comply with National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) recommendations to fund treatments under their public health functions.

DOES THIS DIFFER FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE?

Yes. A new contract has been offered to local GP practices. Incentive payments have been altered to reflect outcomes for patients and key strategic Public Health outcomes. This has made the service provided more responsive to local needs and cost effective particularly with respect to outcomes.

WHAT IS THE CORE BUDGET MADE UP OF?

The core budget for **2019/20 - £167,110 (includes £5,110 overhead)** provides:-

- 11 individual contracts with every GP Practice in Darlington.
- Covers 32,330 eligible population
- Provides access to a Health Check to 7500 people per year

These contracts ensures that local GPs will identify every eligible individual aged 40 -74 is identified from their clinical records and invite them for a NHS Health Check automatically once every 5 years. This contract ensures that every individual receives a prescribed programme of medical checks by a Nurse or Doctor to assess their risk of:-

- heart disease
- stroke
- kidney disease
- diabetes
- Coronary Vascular Disease contributory factors to dementia

and are provided with individualised information about this risk along with information, support and advice to help them reduce their risk. This might include prescribing of medication or referral for further medical investigations or treatment.