

19 August 2020

Scorex House
1 Bolton Road
Bradford
BD1 4AS

Tel: 01274 237290

Dear colleagues,

NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) assessments of eligibility have been suspended since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the third phase of the NHS response to COVID-19, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) must resume NHS CHC assessments from 1 September 2020. Any individuals discharged from hospital between 19 March 2020 and 31 August 2020, whose discharge support package has been paid for by the NHS, will be assessed. Funding arrangements may change following assessment as health and social care systems return to their usual funding arrangements, meaning that some individuals may have to contribute to or fully fund their care.

NHS England national guidance and communications are still to be published with regard to any procedure changes that may come into force as part of the NHS phase 3 arrangements. In the interim, the personalised commissioning department (PCD) will continue to follow the national framework alongside our local authorities and will prioritise work based on the clinical need and risk to the individual. Completion of the COVID-19 backlog will run alongside usual referral, review and appeal processes.

The resumption of NHS CHC assessments creates a significant challenge for the Bradford District and Craven CCG personalised commissioning department (PCD) who are responsible for undertaking these assessments.

Under social distancing guidelines the assessment process will remain 'virtual' in nature to reduce the risk of contact and therefore infection to all parties. The PCD acknowledges the impact that supporting these assessments has on the care provider workload, in what are already very difficult times.

Our mutual aim is ensuring the delivery of a safe, equitable and efficient NHS CHC service and we would like to thank you and your teams for their assistance in advance and will update you as appropriate going forward as we receive further guidance from NHS England.

Yours sincerely,

Personalised commissioning department
NHS Bradford District and Craven CCG
c.healthcare@nhs.net
01274 423003

