

	<p>NHS England and NHS Improvement Anglesey House Wheelhouse Road Rugeley Staffordshire WS15 1UL</p> <p>Tel: 0113 82 49629 Email: trishthompson@nhs.net</p> <p>26 April 2019</p>
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### **By e-mail to Midlands Region STP leads**

Dear colleague,

### **RE: Development and submission of 2019/20 STP Primary Care Strategy**

Following publication of the NHS Long Term Plan and 2019/20 Operational and Contractual Planning Guidance, STPs/ICSs will need to have developed a Primary Care Strategy as they develop system level plans for the Autumn. The date for a Primary Care Strategy to be in place is **30 June 2019**.

This STP/ICS Primary Care Strategy is also required in advance of the new Network Contract DES for Primary Care Networks, which comes into effect on 1 July 2019. This will also ensure that each STP/ICS is able to meet the pre-requisites to receive their STP-level share of General Practice Forward View (GPFV) funding for four of the key GPFV programmes in 2019/20. Allocations for this funding will be released for the full financial year, in or around July 2019.

The STP/ICS Primary Care Strategy will need to clearly set out how the sustainability and transformation of primary care and general practice will be ensured, and should form part of the overarching local system strategy to improve population health. The strategy should set out how CCGs and primary care providers will be engaged in its implementation.

It is recognised that all STPs/ICSs have undertaken a considerable amount of work in developing workforce plans over the past year. These should form the basis of much of the resource planning for the overall Primary Care Strategy. Work undertaken on ETTF planning should also be a key feature.

To help with production of an STP/ICS Primary Care Strategy, a template guide has been developed which accompanies this letter. The template provides both a structure and guidance as to what should be included in the strategy. Ideally, we would like the template to be used by all STPs/ICSs so that we may receive consistent strategies that are easily comparable across the Midlands Region.



The Primary Care Strategy documentation must be approved by local STP/ICS governance structures/programme boards with final plans being submitted for regional assurance by 28 June 2019, in line with the timetable detailed below.

Step	Date of completion
1. Draft plans submitted to the Region for review	20 June 2019
2. Reviewed plans returned to STPs with recommendations	25 June 2019
3. Final plans submitted to the Region	28 June 2019

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued hard work during this extremely busy period. Please do access the support available to you from the GPFV team to support local Primary Care Strategy development.

If you have any specific questions regarding this request then these should be sent to the Regional Lead for the GPFV, Rachel Helmn, [r.helmn@nhs.net](mailto:r.helmn@nhs.net).

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trish Thompson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Trish Thompson  
Director of Primary Care and Public Health - Midlands  
NHS England and NHS Improvement