16 May 2018

Health Committee
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

Dear Dr Wollaston,

Re your inquiry into 'Integrated care: organisations, partnerships and systems':
Additional note from NHS Clinical Commissioner

I have just seen on this note on the Committee's website, dated 27th March 2018, and ordered to be published on 1st May 2018:

The note states that:

"CCGs are responsible for the commissioning of health services at a population level so that means the patient lists of all their member GP practices, but they are also required to commission for those not registered for GP services but live in the area. This is because CCG allocations are provided at a population level (ONS population data). This means CCGs do serve the health needs of all the residents within the CCG area."

This is not correct.

According to NHS England:

"The populations used in the [weighted capitation] formula for each CCG are the total registered lists of all their GP practice members as at October 2015. These are then projected forward at CCG level for each year 2016-17 to 2020-21, based on Office for National Statistics' population projections."

and

"The sizes of CCGs' registered lists differ from the sizes of the ONS resident populations. This is for a number of reasons, the largest of which is cross-boundary flows. These are people who are registered with one CCG and reside in a different CCG. Other reasons include people who are entitled to register with a GP Practice but are excluded from ONS populations because they have not yet been resident in the UK for 12 months, unregistered patients who are included in ONS populations, and patients for whom there is a delay in removal from registered lists following for example a move abroad."
and

“It is recognised that using registered lists does not take into account people who are not registered with a GP practice. ACRA in 2013 considered whether an adjustment should be made to the formula for unregistered populations, but due to the absence of reliable data being available on the size of the unregistered population by area and their healthcare needs, concluded it is not presently possible to do so.”

(Technical Guide to Allocation Formulae and Pace of Change: For 2016-17 to 2020-21 revenue allocations to Clinical Commissioning Groups and commissioning areas, see paragraphs 2.3.4, 3.1.3 and 3.1.4, respectively: https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/1-allctins-16-17-tech-guid-formulae.pdf)

Please could this error be corrected.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

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