Dear Dr Wollaston,

**NHS spending on mental health services**

Thank you for your letter dated 16 January 2018.

Delivery of the *Five Year Forward View for Mental Health* is underpinned by significant additional funding, and the implementation plan ([https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/fyfv-mh.pdf](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/fyfv-mh.pdf)) sets out the detail on the additional investment through to 2020/21, building on existing local investment in mental health services.

NHS England publishes planned and actual mental health expenditure for CCGs in England in addition to a total CCG expenditure. This is publicly available via the *Mental Health Five Year Forward View Dashboard* ([https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/taskforce/imp/mh-dashboard](https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/taskforce/imp/mh-dashboard)).

The figures published in the Mental Health Dashboard show that:

- There has been an overall increase in CCG expenditure from 2013/14 to 2016/17 of £1.6bn in real terms and £1.9bn in cash terms.
- The proportion of overall programme spending on mental health has increased. As stated in the mental health dashboard, CCGs increased their mental health expenditure from £9,148m in 2015/16 to £9,723m 2016/17, an increase of £575m or 6.3%. This compares with overall growth in CCG allocations of 3.7% in 2016/17.
- 85% of CCGs increased mental health expenditure in excess of the overall growth in their allocation in 2016/17.
- From 2015/16 to 2016/17, spend on specialised mental health also increased from £1,831m to £1,879m, an increase of 2.6%.

*(NB: this letter has been updated since January 2018 to correct information on CCG spend between 2013/14 and 2016/17)*

*High quality care for all, now and for future generations*
Therefore, for CCGs and specialised commissioning combined, expenditure on mental health increased from £10,979m in 2015/16 to £11,602m in 2016/17, an increase of 5.7%. This compares to an overall increase in allocations for CCGs and specialised commissioning of 3.4%.

Yours sincerely

Simon Stevens
Chief Executive, NHS England