Thank you for your request for information regarding Funding changes between Screening Services and other health bodies which we received on 17th January 2016.

You requested information as follows:

_I would like information regarding service 'agreements '(long term agreements or service level agreements) between Screening Services and other Health bodies (Trusts or Health Boards) in Wales._

For the year 2005/2006 and all subsequent years to 2015/16 I would like to know the value, by years, for each agreement, for each different screening programme. Please provide the values at the start of the financial year and the end of the financial year. Where the value of the agreement differs at the end of the financial year from at the beginning of the financial year give the amount and reason for the change. Show this separately for each programme and indicate the financial year.

Where an agreement at the end of one financial year differs from the amount of the agreement at the start of the subsequent financial year give the amount of difference and the reason for the difference. Show this separately for each screening programme and indicate the financial year.

Where there has been a bench marking exercise that has resulted in less funding in the total agreements (long term agreements or service level agreements), how much was the funding being paid to other Health Bodies reduced by for each year and what were these funds used for by Public Health Wales? Show the reductions separately for each screening programme. Please present this by year and explicitly state the amount of reduction in that year and the usage of the funds by specific areas of work, this will avoid subsequent questions.

For 2015/16 and beyond, I would like to know planned reductions in agreement funding to Health Bodies, the reason for the reductions, the screening programme and the amounts. Please list separately for each screening programme. Also, I would like to know the planned use of the respective funds that will be taken out of the agreements. Please be as specific as possible to avoid follow on questions.
Please find attached financial summaries of the information requested, by programme, by year.

This information should be read in the context that the screening division has always passed on, in full, any national inflationary uplifts without ever requiring services to provide a cost improvement programme back. Any cost savings made by Health Boards on this income should be notified and passed back to the service for reinvestment as per the terms of the Long Term Agreements.

The service has taken the opportunity to use benchmarking to ensure a level playing field for service provision across Wales according to national pathways and has historically provided supplementary year end funding to services in respect of equipping and supporting service developments within Health Boards and Trusts. This is in addition to the service finding cover for its own internal cost pressures and service developments.

In recent years the service has had to invest funds in:

Implementing Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
Establishing a national cytology processing centre
Establishing a pilot for a national complex polypectomy service
Rolling out HPV testing

Going forwards, the only potential changes are for a proposed benchmarking exercise for Newborn Hearing Screening Wales which is currently under discussion but not yet finalised.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address given.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, Unit 1 Charnwood Court, Heol Billingsley, Parc Nantgarw Cardiff, CF15 7QZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales
2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH
Telephone: 029 2067 8400

Kind regards

Jane Evans
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