



Report to:	ICB Board
Date of Meeting:	12 July 2023
Subject:	Government's Mandate to the NHS
Director Sponsor:	Stephen Eames, Chief Executive
Author:	Shaun Jones, Interim Locality Director

STATUS OF THE REPORT: *(Please click on the appropriate box)*

Approve Discuss Assurance Information A Regulatory Requirement

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report draws attention to ICB Board members the recent publication of the Government's Mandate to the NHS, which forms part of the legislative framework that governs how the NHS operates and is held to account.

Each year the Government publishes a Mandate to the NHS of what it wants the NHS to deliver and directs NHS England, as the lead body for managing and delivering the NHS in England, to ensure that the priorities set out in the Mandate are taken forward and delivered.

Three overall priorities are set out in the Mandate document published on 23 June 2023 as follows:

Priority One – Cut NHS Waiting Lists and Recover Performance

This covers elective care, Cancer, Diagnostics, Urgent and Emergency Care and Primary Care and reinforces the priorities in the NHS Operational Planning guidance for 2023/24 and the recent recovery plans published for Urgent and Emergency Care and Primary Care, alongside the Elective Recovery Plan published in February 2023.

Priority Two – Support the Workforce for training, retention and modernising the way staff work

This priority emphasises the key area of Workforce and links to the new NHS Workforce Plan published on 30 June 2023.

Priority Three – Deliver recovery through the use of data and technology

This priority highlights the importance of the use of innovation and technology to digitally transform the NHS and help ensure its long-term sustainability. Specific attention is drawn to electronic health records, federated data platforms and transforming the use of the NHS app.

The explicit inclusion of digital as one of the three priorities highlights its growing importance in terms of deliver and efficiency.

In addition to the 3 priorities, there is also a need for the NHS to continue to deliver the NHS Long term Plan to transform services and improve outcomes.



The Mandate is directed to NHS England who, in turn, will be holding ICBs to account for the delivery of these priorities over the next 12 months.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- i) Note the content of the Government’s Mandate to the NHS for 2023/24.

ICB STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE *(please click on the boxes of the relevant strategic objective(s))*

Realising our vision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving outcomes in population health and healthcare	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting broader social and economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tackling inequalities in outcomes experience and access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Delivering our operational plan 2022/23	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Developing our ICS	<input type="checkbox"/>

IMPLICATIONS *(Please state N/A against any domain where none are identified)*

Finance	The Government’s Mandate to the NHS reinforces the importance of managing within the allocated budgets.
Quality	Patient safety and quality is a key underpinning consideration of the Government’s mandate.
HR	Workforce is one of the 3 explicit headline priorities of the Government’s Mandate to the NHS.
Legal / Regulatory	Not applicable.
Data Protection / IG	This will be a key aspect to the delivery of the digital priority in the Mandate.
Health inequality / equality	Not applicable
Conflict of Interest Aspects	Not applicable
Sustainability	Not applicable

ASSESSED RISK:



There are key risks to the delivery of the priorities as set out in the Government's Mandate and these are addressed in the separate performance report on today's agenda.

MONITORING AND ASSURANCE:

The delivery of the priorities will be closely monitored as part of the ICBs ongoing monitoring and assurance processes.

ENGAGEMENT:

Not applicable

REPORT EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

No Yes

If yes, please detail the specific grounds for exemption