Personal Health Budgets to become the default delivery model for NHS Continuing Healthcare funded home care by April 2019

On May 12th 2018 all CCG’s received a communication from NHS England that asks that all Continuing Healthcare (CHC) home care packages of care be delivered as Personal Health Budgets (PHBs).

“There is strong evidence of improved outcomes as a result of the introduction of personal health budgets, including increased quality of life and reduced need for unplanned NHS care such as emergency hospital admission.

“As a result.....NHS England believes that all NHS CHC funded packages delivered in a home care setting, excluding fast track NHS CHC, should be managed as a personal health budget, and that they should become the default operating model for this group by April 2019. This means that individuals know what their budget is, are involved in personalised care and support planning and have greater control over how the budget is used, including the option of a direct payment.”


PHBs offer people a chance to take as much or little control over the care that they receive as they want to take. Many people in receipt of CHC have chosen to have a Direct Payment PHB which allows them to have more choice over who provides their care; and how they spend the budget based on agreed health outcomes.

However lots of other people don’t want to have the responsibilities that come with having a Direct Payment PHB and have chosen to have a “notional” PHB. This option will be attractive to those people who are happy with their care arrangements and want very little or nothing to change at present. People can change this if they choose to in future.

A “notional” PHB is based on an essential Support Plan in which health outcomes are agreed with a Case Manager, and this shows how someone’s care and support is to be provided. CHC patients will be provided information about the different PHB options, the amount of money available for their care and with help to complete the Support Plan.

NHS Trafford CCG CHC Case Managers will be contacting all people in receipt of CHC between August and December 2018 in order to discuss how best to support them to take up a Personal Health Budget.

In order to discuss this further please contact trccg.traffordpersonalisedcare@nhs.net

You can also find information regarding Personal Health Budgets via this link http://www.traffordccg.nhs.uk/about-us/continuing-healthcare/ and Healthwatch Trafford, our information partner via https://healthwatchtrafford.co.uk/resources/personal-health-budgets-2/