Informatics Services Commissioning Group (ISCG)

Developing the ISCG Strategy: a background information summary for people attending the ISCG Open House, 21 January 2014

The ISCG

- The Informatics Services Commissioning Group (ISCG) helps set the direction and advises the Department of Health (DH) on how best to spend several hundred million pounds in informatics funding each year.

- It includes senior leaders from across the health and social care system. A full list of members can be found at the end of this document in Annex A.

- That includes work that involves national healthcare data, information, IT systems, information standards (the way in which information is used) and information governance (protecting and safeguarding information).

What is Informatics?

- Informatics is about how we use health information to improve patient care.
- Informatics relates to the skills and tools that are used to collect, manage, use and share information to support the delivery of health care and improve health.

The ISCG Vision

ISCG Informatics Services Commissioning Group

The main ambitions for the ISCG :
- Secure, digital information services across the health and care system that can be passed safely between organisations where appropriate
- Empowered patients and citizens, able to participate in shaping their services
- Improved safety, efficiency and outcomes through provision of IT systems that eliminate paper and duplication
- Integrated information services providing a single view of an entire patient and citizen experience
- Elimination of duplicate data collections and inefficient use of information

Summary of the ISCG Strategy

- Based on the vision outlined above, the ISCG is currently developing a strategy that will outline the context for ISCG, the need for its programmes and how they will help improve services for patients. It will also help the ISCG to make decisions about how to best commission and prioritise informatics programmes.

- Feedback from the Open House event on 21 January 2014 will help shape the strategy and there will also be further opportunities to input.

- The outline structure of the ISCG strategy is provided in Annex B.

What is the ISCG Strategy for?

- The ISCG Strategy will:
  - Give the ISCG vision and direction to its work
  - Provide clarity to the investment being made in informatics to improve health and care outcomes, safety and quality, and efficiency
  - Outline the different programmes being invested in, the reasons for these and the intended benefits for patients and the public
  - Provide clarity about the implications for the health and social care workforce and organisations

Developing the Strategy

- A small sub-group of the ISCG is developing the strategy, chaired by Chris Outram, Director of Intelligence and Strategy for NHS England and has input across the health and social care system.

- In addition to the ISCG Open House on 21st January there will be further opportunities for people to input into its development over the next few months and we will keep you informed throughout this time.

- The draft ISCG Strategy should be available in June 2014 for comment

Annex A: ISCG Members

- The NHS England National Director for Patients and Information (NHS England) chairs the ISCG. The following organisations are members of the ISCG:

➢ Department of Health

➢ NHS England

➢ Care Quality Commission (CQC)

➢ Health Education England (HEE)

➢ Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC)

➢ Major Projects Authority (MPA) under the Cabinet Office

➢ Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

➢ Monitor

➢ National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)

➢ NHS Trust Development Agency (NTDA)

➢ Public Health England (PHE)

- If you would like to know more, go to: http://www.england.nhs.uk/iscg/

Annex B: Proposed ISCG Strategy Structure

Chapter	Sub-Sections
1. Introduction	a. Scope
	b. ISCG Strategic Principles/Vision
2. Context	a. Wider Context
	b. Alignment with Existing and other related strategies
	c. Health and Care Strategy
3. Customer Requirements	ISCG "Customer" needs/outcomes
4. Benefits Realisation	Clarity on delivery of benefits (Improving health and care outcomes; Safety and quality; Increasing efficiency)
5. Delivery Priorities – what will be delivered	Comparative data/ information; Interoperable records; Transactional services; Information for research; Reducing the data burden
6. Enabling Delivery	a. Enabling Sub-Strategies (*Business and cultural change; Technology Strategy; Information and Data Services; Investment and Finance; Developing Capability and Culture*)
	b. Enablers or Levers
	c. ISCG Working together