

10 October 2016

Mr. Simon Evans-Evans  
Locality Director – south  
Midlands & East (East)  
Swift House  
Hedgerows Business Park  
Colchester Road  
Chelmsford  
CM2 5PF

Dear Mr. Evans-Evans

**RE: LEARNING DISABILITY HEALTH CHECKS**

The above issue was discussed at the Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC). As you are aware, HOSC has had serious concerns regarding the under-performance of our local GP practices in offering and delivering this programme over a number of years.

NHS Thurrock CCG brought a report to September's HOSC on the 2016-17 programme, but as a committee we were alarmed to find that it contained no performance data with regard to the number of LD Health Checks that had been carried out in this financial year at GP practice level.

The NHS Thurrock CCG commissioner responsible for co-commissioning this programme with you informed HOSC that the omission of performance data was due to a failure by NHS England to extract it from GP practice database/payment system electronically and provide it to her in a timely manner.

She further reported that if she could receive uptake data on a monthly basis, the CCG will be able to support surgeries that to ensure they are:

- actually undertaking the checks
- recording these appropriately so that we can have a more accurate position on performance.

At the moment, the CCG are currently working with surgeries to manually extract this information which is extremely time-consuming and an ineffective way of managing the process. Receiving the data on a monthly basis even if retrospectively would allow the CCG to both performance-manage surgeries and plan how they support with additional capacity.

The previous time this issue was discussed at HOSC, we were given a firm assurance by the NHS England representative that you would address the historic unacceptably poor performance on this programme locally in 2016-17. The committee feels that it is unacceptable not to have an understanding of performance to date, if this assurance is to be delivered.

HOSC requests that you provide assurance that performance data on LD Health checks at GP practice level be provided on a regular basis to NHS Thurrock CCG and confirm when this will begin to happen.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr. Victoria Holloway**  
**Chair, Thurrock Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

cc.