

**FROM THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL MANAGING
DIRECTOR OF COMMISSIONING DEVELOPMENT**

To: All Chief Executives in Primary Care Trusts in
England
All Chief Executives in Strategic Health Authorities
in England

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Dear Colleague

I wanted to share with you a letter which is being sent from the Secretary of State to all GPs and Practice Managers in England.

The letter responds to conversations that the Secretary of State has been having with General Practitioners over recent weeks and provides clarity on a number of areas relating to:

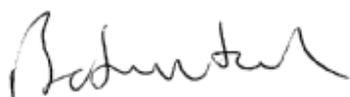
- what responsibilities GPs would be expected to undertake in their new role in commissioning consortia;
- what support they will receive to help them in the transition period;
- the next steps, using practice based commissioning consortia to shadow potential future arrangements;
- some clarification on organisational structures and governance.

In the letter the Secretary of State encourages GPs who are scoping the development of consortia in their area to approach their PCTs soon with a view to making progress under existing arrangements. The letter can be found at

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_119741.

I know that in many areas huge progress is already being made and I am sure that this letter will generate further interest and engagement during the consultation process and help to drive the clinical change we all want to see to improve services for patients.

Yours sincerely



Dame Barbara Hakin
National Managing Director of Commissioning Development