

Connecting Healthcare In Communities

Primary Health Care
Partnership Councils



Communiqué for Partnership Councils

July 09

As many of us eagerly await the upcoming release of National Primary Health Care Strategy, National Preventive Health Strategy and key recommendations of the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission it is timely to restate that the CHIC Initiative and its' Partnership Councils remain a key Queensland Health approach to improving partnering, service integration and coordination in the primary health care sector. Partnerships approaches are likely to be a central characteristic of any future policy direction at Commonwealth and State levels.

In response to the CHIC Baseline Evaluation and stakeholder feedback Queensland Health is continuing to work on developing internal processes which support a consistent transparent state-wide approach to CHIC, including clear separation between partnership development, contract management and service provision.

The CHIC Implementation Team acknowledges that the existing approval and funding process has raised genuine concern and that in some instances local partnering processes may have been impacted by delays in the signing of contracts and transfer of funding.

To this end, the CHIC Implementation Team have accessed additional skills and support and developed a more streamlined process to expedite project payments and contract management. (See attached flow diagram). It is envisaged this additional support and revised process will remove much of the current administrative impost on the PCs and their facilitators, enabling greater emphasis on genuine partnering and system integration processes.

First and foremost all existing levels of Partnering and Service Delivery and Innovation funding will remain as previously committed for the Partnership Councils to June 2011. All existing contracts will be honoured and funds will soon be able to be transferred electronically without the requirement of an invoice. The new process will be effective for all contracts commencing after 1 July 2009.

Most organisations who already receive funding from Queensland Health will be familiar with these approval and contract management mechanisms which should go some way to ensuring a smooth transition.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sean Lowry, Manager CHIC Implementation Team on 3405 5779 or Sean_Lowry@health.qld.gov.au should you have any questions about the revised process.

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