

Dear Malcolm,

We have now published the Framework for Patient and Public Participation in Primary Care Commissioning on the [NHS England website](#) and are in the process of promoting it to commissioners.

The framework is a guide for primary care commissioners, in NHS England and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), on how to involve patients and the public in the commissioning of primary care services. In addition, [information for patients and the public](#) has been published on the website, to help them understand how to get involved in primary care commissioning. This information is also available as an easy read version.

The documents were developed together with NHS England staff, members of the working group for patient and public participation in primary care, and other key partners.

We received many useful comments and feedback on earlier drafts. The key points from the engagement period and the changes we have made as a result are listed below:

- Following engagement feedback and in the context of co-commissioning developments, the framework has been positioned as being advice, support and resources for all commissioners of primary care, whether NHS England or CCGs.
- Respondents emphasised the need for public facing information on how to get involved in this area of commissioning, which has been produced. They wanted to see more examples and links to case studies, good practice and resources. These have been added and additional case studies are in

development.

- Many respondents highlighted the role of GP practice Patient Participation Groups (PPGs) and networks for this area of public participation, and the need to support and strengthen them. The framework references the recent work NHS England has done with the National Association for Patient Participation to support stronger PPGs (section 6.2).

The framework is now being implemented and over the next year we will review how it is working in practice and the impact it is having. We will gather feedback in a number of ways including through a [survey on our website](#) and we would welcome your further comments on how well the documents are being used.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please get in touch.

Best wishes,

NHS England Public Participation team

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