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**To PCT CEs & Sector CEs**Southside  
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Dear Colleagues,

David Behan and David Flory wrote to you on 13 January regarding NHS support for social care. I am writing to emphasise the importance of this guidance and the need to transfer resources to Local Authorities in a timely manner.

PCTs have received significant allocations to support social care (£162m nationally in 10/11 and £648m in 11/12) and it is essential that you make arrangements to pass these resources over to your Local Authority partners in full. I have agreed with Jon Rouse (CE, Croydon Council and LA CE lead for health) that local government in London should be able to use the resources identified for transfer through s256 to meet the rising costs of existing social care provision and that we should not expect this money to be used to fund new and additional services. At the same time, he accepts that there is a legitimate expectation that Local Authorities will work with the NHS to devise more efficient and productive ways of combining resources to reduce cost pressures in both the health and social care system.

It is important that Local Authorities have confirmation that resources are available for 11/12 as soon as possible. (I am assuming that you have already made arrangements to transfer the 10/11 resources). I would therefore ask you to reach agreement with your Local Authority colleagues about arrangements for transfer of 11/12 resources by the end of February at the very latest.

For clarity, this letter refers specifically to the use of the resources allocated to PCTs to support social care. While I also expect you to work with your Local Authority partners to plan the use of resources allocated to PCTs for re-ablement, the use of the re-ablement resources is to be determined locally.

Yours sincerely

  
Ruth Carnall  
Chief Executive

London Strategic Health Authority

Interim Chair: Professor Mike Spyer      Chief Executive: Ruth Carnall CBE