

NHS Frimley Integrated Care Board Standing Financial Instructions

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1. Purpose and statutory framework

- 1.1.1 These Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs) shall have effect as if incorporated into the Integrated Care Board's (ICB) constitution. In accordance with the National Health Service Act 2006, as amended by the Health and Care Act 2022, the ICB must publish its constitution.
- 1.1.2 In accordance with the Act, as amended, NHS England is mandated to publish guidance for ICBs, to which each ICB must have regard, in order to discharge their duties.
- 1.1.3 The purpose of this governance document is to ensure that the ICB fulfils its statutory duty to carry out its functions effectively, efficiently and economically. The SFIs are part of the ICB's control environment for managing the organisation's financial affairs as they are designed to ensure regularity and propriety of financial transactions.
- 1.1.4 SFIs define the purpose, responsibilities, legal framework and operating environment of the ICB. They enable sound administration, lessen the risk of irregularities and support commissioning and delivery of effective, efficient and economical services.
- 1.1.5 The ICB is established under Chapter A3 of Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006, as inserted by the Health and Care Act 2022 and has the general function of arranging for the provision of services for the purposes of the health services in England in accordance with the Act.
- 1.1.6 Each ICB is to be established by order made by NHS England for an area within England, the order establishing an ICB makes provision for the constitution of the ICB.
- 1.1.7 All members of the ICB (its board) and all other Officers should be aware of the existence of these documents and be familiar with their detailed provisions. The ICB SFIs will be made available to all Officers on the intranet and internet website for each statutory body.
- 1.1.8 Should any difficulties arise regarding the interpretation or application of any of these SFIs, the advice of the chief executive or the chief financial officer must be sought before acting.
- 1.1.9 Failure to comply with the SFIs may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the ICBs applicable disciplinary policy and procedure in operation at that time.

2. Scope

2.1.1 All officers of the ICB, without exception, are within the scope of the SFIs without limitation. The term officer includes, permanent employees, secondees and contract workers.

2.1.2 Within this document, words imparting any gender include any other gender, words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

2.1.3 Any reference to an enactment is a reference to that enactment as amended.

2.1.4 Unless a contrary intention is evident, or the context requires otherwise, words or expressions contained in this document, will have the same meaning as set out in the applicable Act.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Staff

3.1.1 All ICB Officers are severally and collectively, responsible to their respective employer(s) for:

- abiding by all conditions of any delegated authority;
- the security of the statutory organisations property and avoiding all forms of loss;
- ensuring integrity, accuracy, probity and value for money in the use of resources; and
- conforming to the requirements of these SFIs

3.2 Accountable Officer

3.2.1 The ICB constitution provides for the appointment of the chief executive by the ICB chair. The chief executive is the accountable officer for the ICB and is personally accountable to NHS England for the stewardship of ICBs allocated resources.

3.2.2 The chief financial officer reports directly to the ICB chief executive officer and is professionally accountable to the NHS England regional finance director

3.2.3 The chief executive will delegate to the chief financial officer the following responsibilities in relation to the ICB:

- preparation and audit of annual accounts;

- adherence to the directions from NHS England in relation to accounts preparation;
- ensuring that the allocated annual revenue and capital resource limits are not exceeded, jointly, with system partners;
- ensuring that there is an effective financial control framework in place to support accurate financial reporting, safeguard assets and minimise risk of financial loss;
- meeting statutory requirements relating to taxation;
- ensuring that there are suitable financial systems in place (see Section 6)
- meeting the financial targets set by NHS England;
- use of incidental powers such as management of ICB assets, entering commercial agreements;
- ensuring the Governance statement and annual accounts & reports are signed;
- ensuring planned budgets are approved by the relevant Board; developing the funding strategy for the ICB to support the board in achieving ICB objectives, including consideration of place-based budgets;
- making use of benchmarking to make sure that funds are deployed as effectively as possible;
- executive members (partner members and non-executive members) and other officers are notified of and understand their responsibilities within the SFIs;
- specific responsibilities and delegation of authority to specific job titles are confirmed;
- financial leadership and financial performance of the ICB;
- identification of key financial risks and issues relating to robust financial performance and leadership and working with relevant providers and partners to enable solutions; and

- the chief financial officer will support a strong culture of public accountability, probity, and governance, ensuring that appropriate and compliant structures, systems, and process are in place to minimise risk.

3.3 Audit committee

3.3.1 The board and accountable officer should be supported by an audit and committee, which should provide proactive support to the board in advising on:

- the management of key risks
- the strategic processes for risk;
- the operation of internal controls;
- control and governance and the governance statement;
- the accounting policies, the accounts, and the annual report of the ICB;
- the process for reviewing of the accounts prior to submission for audit, management's letter of representation to the external auditors; and the planned activity and results of both internal and external audit.

4. Management accounting and business management

4.1.1 The chief financial officer is responsible for maintaining policies and processes relating to the control, management and use of resources across the ICB.

4.1.2 The chief financial officer will delegate the budgetary control responsibilities to budget holders through a formal documented process.

4.1.3 The chief financial officer will ensure:

- the promotion of compliance to the SFIs through an assurance certification process;
- the promotion of long term financial health for the NHS system (including ICS);
- budget holders are accountable for obtaining the necessary approvals and oversight of all expenditure incurred on the cost centres they are responsible for;

- the improvement of financial literacy of budget holders with the appropriate level of expertise and systems training;
- that the budget holders are supported in proportion to the operational risk; and
- the implementation of financial and resources plans that support the NHS Long term plan objectives.

4.1.4 In addition, the chief financial officer should have financial leadership responsibility for the following statutory duties:

- the duty of the ICB to perform its functions as to ensure that its expenditure does not exceed the aggregate of its allotment from NHS England and its other income; and
- the duty of the ICB, in conjunction with its partner trusts, to seek to achieve any joint financial objectives set by NHS England for the ICB and its partner trusts.

4.1.5 The chief financial officer and *any senior officer responsible* for finance within the ICB should also promote a culture where budget holders and decision makers consult their finance business partners in key strategic decisions that carry a financial impact.

5. Income, banking arrangements and debt recovery

5.1 Income

5.1.1 An ICB has power to do anything specified in section 7(2) of the Health and Medicines Act 1988 for the purpose of making additional income available for improving the health service.

5.1.2 The chief financial officer is responsible for:

- ensuring order to cash practices are designed and operated to support, efficient, accurate and timely invoicing and receipting of cash. The processes and procedures should be standardised and harmonised across the NHS System by working cooperatively with the existing Shared Services provider; and
- ensuring the debt management strategy reflects the debt management objectives of the ICB and the prevailing risks;

5.2 Banking

5.2.1 The CFO is responsible for ensuring the ICB complies with any directions issued by the Secretary of State with regards to the use of specified banking facilities for any specified purposes.

5.2.2 The chief financial officer will ensure that:

- the ICB holds the minimum number of bank accounts required to run the organisation effectively. These should be raised through the government banking services contract; and
- the ICB has effective cash management policies and procedures in place.

5.3 Debt management

5.3.1 The chief financial officer is responsible for the ICB debt management strategy.

5.3.2 This includes:

- a debt management strategy that covers end-to-end debt management from debt creation to collection or write-off in accordance with the losses and special payment procedures;
- ensuring the debt management strategy covers a minimum period of 3 years and must be reviewed and endorsed by the ICB board every 12 months to ensure relevance and provide assurance;
- accountability to the ICB board that debt is being managed effectively;
- accountabilities and responsibilities are defined with regards to debt management to budget holders; and
- responsibility to appoint a senior officer responsible for day to day management of debt.

6. Financial systems and processes

6.1 Provision of finance systems

6.1.1 The chief financial officer is responsible for ensuring systems and processes are designed and maintained for the recording and verification of finance transactions such as payments and receivables for the ICB.

6.1.2 The systems and processes will ensure, inter alia, that payment for goods and services is made in accordance with the provisions of these SFIs, related procurement guidance and prompt payment practice.

6.1.3 As part of the contractual arrangements for ICBs officers will be granted access where appropriate to the Integrated Single Financial Environment (“ISFE”). This is the required accounting system for use by ICBs, Access is based on single access log on to enable users to perform core accounting functions such as to transacting and coding of expenditure/income in fulfilment of their roles.

6.1.4 The Chief Financial officer will, in relation to financial systems:

- promote awareness and understanding of financial systems, value for money and commercial issues;
- ensure that transacting is carried out efficiently in line with current best practice – e.g. e-invoicing
- ensure that the ICB meets the required financial and governance reporting requirements as a statutory body by the effective use of finance systems;
- enable the prevention and the detection of inaccuracies and fraud, and the reconstitution of any lost records;
- ensure that the financial transactions of the authority are recorded as soon as, and as accurately as, reasonably practicable;
- ensure publication and implementation of all ICB business rules and ensure that the internal finance team is appropriately resourced to deliver all statutory functions of the ICB;
- ensure that risk is appropriately managed;
- ensure identification of the duties of officers dealing with financial transactions and division of responsibilities of those officers;

- ensure the ICB has suitable financial and other software to enable it to comply with these policies and any consolidation requirements of the ICB;
- ensure that contracts for computer services for financial applications with another health organisation or any other agency shall clearly define the responsibility of all parties for the security, privacy, accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of data during processing, transmission and storage. The contract should also ensure rights of access for audit purposes; and
- where another health organisation or any other agency provides a computer service for financial applications, the chief finance officer shall periodically seek assurances that adequate controls are in operation.

7. Procurement and purchasing

7.1 Principles

- 7.1.1 The chief financial officer will take a lead role on behalf of the ICB to ensure that there are appropriate and effective financial, contracting, monitoring and performance arrangements in place to ensure the delivery of effective health services.
- 7.1.2 The ICB must ensure that procurement activity is in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR) and associated statutory requirements whilst securing value for money and sustainability.
- 7.1.3 The ICB must consider, as appropriate, any applicable NHS England guidance that does not conflict with the above.
- 7.1.4 The ICB must have a Procurement Policy which sets out all of the legislative requirements.
- 7.1.5 All revenue and non-pay expenditure must be approved, in accordance with the ICB business case policy, prior to an agreement being made with a third party that enters a commitment to future expenditure.
- 7.1.6 All officers must ensure that any conflicts of interest are identified, declared and appropriately mitigated or resolved in accordance with the ICB standards of business conduct policy.
- 7.1.7 Budget holders are accountable for obtaining the necessary approvals and oversight of all expenditure incurred on the cost centres they are responsible for. This includes obtaining the necessary internal and external approvals which vary based on the type of spend, prior to procuring the goods, services or works.
- 7.1.8 Undertake any contract variations or extensions in accordance with PCR 2015 and the ICB procurement policy.
- 7.1.9 Retrospective expenditure approval should not be encouraged. Any such retrospective breaches require approval from any committee responsible for approvals before the liability is settled. Such breaches must be reported to the audit committee.

8. Staff costs and staff related non pay expenditure

8.1 Chief People Officer

- 8.1.1 The chief people officer [CPO] (or equivalent people role in the ICB) will lead the development and delivery of the long-term people strategy of the ICB ensuring this reflects and integrates the strategies of all relevant partner organisations within the ICS.
- 8.1.2 Operationally the CPO will be responsible for;
- defining and delivering the organisation's overall human resources strategy and objectives; and
 - overseeing delivery of human resource services to ICB employees.
- 8.1.3 The CPO will ensure that the payroll system has adequate internal controls and suitable arrangements for processing deductions and exceptional payments.
- 8.1.4 Where a third-party payroll provider is engaged, the CPO shall closely manage this supplier through effective contract management.
- 8.1.5 The CPO is responsible for management and governance frameworks that support the ICB employees' life cycle.

9. Annual reporting and Accounts

- 9.1.1 The chief financial officer will ensure, on behalf of the Accountable Officer and ICB board, that:
- the ICB is in a position to produce its required monthly reporting, annual report, and accounts, as part of the setup of the new organisation; and
 - the ICB, in each financial year, prepares a report on how it has discharged its functions in the previous financial year;
- 9.1.2 An annual report must, in particular, explain how the ICB has:
- discharged its duties in relating to improving quality of services, reducing inequalities, the triple aim and public involvement;
 - review the extent to which the board has exercised its functions in accordance with its published 5 year forward plan and capital resource use plan; and
 - review any steps that the board has taken to implement any joint local health and wellbeing strategy.

9.1.3 NHS England may give directions to the ICB as to the form and content of an annual report.

9.1.4 The ICB must give a copy of its annual report to NHS England by the date specified by NHS England in a direction and publish the report.

9.2 Internal audit

The chief executive, as the accountable officer, is responsible for ensuring there is appropriate internal audit provision in the ICB. For operational purposes, this responsibility is delegated to the chief financial officer to ensure that:

- all internal audit services provided under arrangements proposed by the chief financial officer are approved by the Audit Committee, on behalf of the ICB board;
- the ICB must have an internal audit charter. The internal audit charter must be prepared in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS);
- the ICB internal audit charter and annual audit plan, must be endorsed by the ICB Accountable Officer, audit committee and board;
- the head of internal audit must provide an annual opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the ICB Board's framework of governance, risk management and internal control as they operated during the year, based on a systematic review and evaluation;
- the head of internal audit should attend audit committee meetings and have a right of access to all audit committee members, the Chair and chief executive of the ICB.
- the appropriate and effective financial control arrangements are in place for the ICB and that accepted internal and external audit recommendations are actioned in a timely manner.

9.3 External Audit

The chief financial officer is responsible for:

- liaising with external audit colleagues to ensure timely delivery of financial statements for audit and publication in accordance with statutory, regulatory requirements;

- ensuring that the ICB appoints an auditor in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; in particular, the ICB must appoint a local auditor to audit its accounts for a financial year not later than 31 December in the preceding financial year; the ICB must appoint a local auditor at least once every 5 years (ICBs will be informed of the transitional arrangements at a later date); and
- ensuring that the appropriate and effective financial control arrangements are in place for the ICB and that accepted external audit recommendations are actioned in a timely manner.

10. Losses and special payments

- 10.1.1 HM Treasury approval is required if a transaction exceeds the delegated authority, or if transactions will set a precedent, are novel, contentious or could cause repercussions elsewhere in the public sector.
- 10.1.2 The chief financial officer will support a strong culture of public accountability, probity, and governance, ensuring that appropriate and compliant structures, systems, and process are in place to minimise risks from losses and special payments.
- 10.1.3 NHS England has the statutory power to require an integrated care board to provide NHS England with information. The information, is not limited to losses and special payments, must be provided in such form, and at such time or within such period, as NHS England may require.
- 10.1.4 ICBs will work with NHS England teams to ensure there is assurance over all exit packages which may include special severance payments. ICBs have no delegated authority for special severance payments and will refer to the guidance on that to obtain the approval of such payments
- 10.1.5 All losses and special payments (including special severance payments) must be reported to the ICB Audit Committee.
- 10.1.6 For detailed operational guidance on losses and special payments, please refer to the ICB losses and special payment guide which includes delegated limits.

11. Fraud, bribery and corruption (Economic crime)

- 11.1.1 The ICB is committed to identifying, investigating and preventing economic crime.
- 11.1.2 The ICB chief financial officer is responsible for ensuring appropriate arrangements are in place to provide adequate counter fraud provision which should include reporting requirements to the board and Audit Committee and defined roles and accountabilities for those involved as part of the process of providing assurance to the board.
- 11.1.3 These arrangements should comply with the NHS Requirements the Government Functional Standard 013 Counter Fraud as issued by NHS Counter Fraud Authority and any guidance issued by NHS England.

12. Capital Investments & security of assets and Grants

- 12.1.1 The chief financial officer is responsible for:
- ensuring that at the commencement of each financial year, the ICB and its partner NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts prepare a plan setting out their planned capital resource use;
 - ensuring that the ICB and its partner NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts exercise their functions with a view to ensuring that, in respect of each financial year local capital resource use does not exceed the limit specified in a direction by NHS England;
 - ensuring the ICB has a documented property transfer scheme for the transfer of property, rights or liabilities from ICB's predecessor clinical commissioning group(s);
 - ensuring that there is an effective appraisal and approval process in place for determining capital expenditure priorities and the effect of each proposal upon business plans;
 - ensuring that there are processes in place for the management of all stages of capital schemes, that will ensure that schemes are delivered on time and to cost;
 - ensuring that capital investment is not authorised without evidence of availability of resources to finance all revenue consequences;
and

- for every capital expenditure proposal, the chief financial officer is responsible for ensuring there are processes in place to ensure that a business case is produced.

12.1.2 Capital commitments typically cover land, buildings, equipment, capital grants to third parties and IT, including:

- authority to spend capital or make a capital grant; and
- authority to enter into leasing arrangements.

12.1.3 Advice should be sought from the chief financial officer or nominated officer if there is any doubt as to whether any proposal is a capital commitment requiring formal approval.

12.1.4 For operational purposes, the ICB shall have nominated senior officers accountable for ICB property assets and for managing property.

12.1.5 ICBs shall have a defined and established property governance and management framework, which should:

- ensure the ICB asset portfolio supports its business objectives; and
- complies with NHS England policies and directives and with this guidance

12.1.6 Disposals of surplus assets should be made in accordance with published guidance and should be supported by a business case which should contain an appraisal of the options and benefits of the disposal in the context of the wider public sector and to secure value for money.

12.2 Grants

12.2.1 The chief financial officer is responsible for providing robust management, governance and assurance to the ICB with regards to the use of specific powers under which it can make capital or revenue grants available to;

- any of its partner NHS trusts or NHS foundation trusts; and
- to a voluntary organisation, by way of a grant or loan.

12.2.2 All revenue grant applications should be regarded as competed as a default position, unless there are justifiable reasons why the classification should be amended to non-competed.

13. Legal and insurance

13.1.1 This section applies to any legal cases threatened or instituted by or against the ICB. The ICB should have policies and procedures detailing:

- engagement of solicitors / legal advisors;
- approval and signing of documents which will be necessary in legal proceedings; and
- Officers who can commit ICB revenue resources in relation to settling legal matters.

13.1.2 ICBs are advised not to buy commercial insurance to protect against risk unless it is part of a risk management strategy that is approved by the accountable officer.

14. Contract Sign Off

14.1.1 The Chief Finance Officer may delegate the signing of contracts to the Associate Director of Contracting & Procurement. The Chief Finance Officer will provide written authorisation to the Associate Director of Contracting & Procurement where required.

Appendix A - Authorised Financial Limits

AUTHORITY LIMITS – COMMITMENT OF EXPENDITURE

Table A	Commitment of Expenditure	Commitment of Expenditure	Commitment of Expenditure
	Non Healthcare	Healthcare	Healthcare
	New and variations to existing	New contracts	Existing contracts
Board	> £1,500k	> £4,500k	> £4,500k
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director <u>AND</u> Chief Finance Officer	<=£1,500k	<=£4,500k	<=£4,500k
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director <u>OR</u> Chief Finance Officer	<=£1,000k	<=£3,000k	<=£3,000k
Chief Officers	<=£100k	<=£500k	<=£500k
Agenda For Change Band 9 (Finance)	<=£100k	<=£250k	<=£250k
Agenda For Change Band 9 (Non-Finance)	<=75k	<=£100k	<=£100k
Agenda for Change Band 8D	<=£50k	<=£50k	<=£100k
Agenda for Change Band 8C	<=£40k	<=£40k	<=£50k
Agenda for Change Band 8B	<=£20k	<=£20k	<=£20k
Agenda for Change Band 8A	<=£10k	<=£10k	<=£10k
Agenda for Change Band 7	<=£1k	<=£1k	<=£1k

Footnote 1

- The above limits include VAT not recoverable by the ICB
- The above limits are the MAXIMUM ANNUAL VALUE
- A COMMITMENT FOR A CONTRACT FOR UP TO **5 YEARS (INCLUDING EXTENSION PERIODS)** CAN BE MADE, WITH A MAXIMUM ANNUAL VALUE IN EACH YEAR NOT TO EXCEED THE AUTHORITY LIMITS IN TABLE A.
- The above limits only apply to expenditure or income within agreed budgets.
- The cumulative cost of a contract must be taken into account and not broken down in order to circumvent these authority limits.
- It is expected that the Board will be informed of all decisions made by the AO, and FD.
- Revenue commitments covered in High Costs Placements are covered in a table below
- ICB operate a No-PO, No Pay Policy (from February 2024), support is available [here](#). This is the default expectation, but a number of exceptions do exist. A list of exceptions can be found [here](#), under the 'Expenditure Approval Routes' tab.

AUTHORITY LIMITS – PAYMENTS, SALES ORDERS AND INVOICE RAISING

Table B Approval of Sales Orders with agreed contract values and other approved income (monthly) (Healthcare and non-Healthcare)		
	Sales Orders	Credit Notes
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director and Chief Finance Officer	>£5,000k	>£3,000k
Chief Finance Officer	> £3,000k to £5,000k	>£1,000k to 3,000k
Chief Officers	<= £3,000k	<= £1,000k
Agenda for Change Band 9	<= £3,000k	<= £1,000k
Agenda For Change Band 8D	<=£500k	£=£100k
Agenda For Change Band 8C	<=£250k	0
Agenda for Change 8B	<=£100k	0

Table C Payments in accordance with agreed contract values and other approved expenditure (monthly) see Footnote 2	
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director and Chief Finance Officer	>£10m
Chief Finance Officer	<=£10m
Chief Officers	<= £5,000k
Agenda For Change Band 9	<= £5,000k
Agenda For Change Band 8D	<=£1,000k
Agenda For Change Band 8C	<=£250k
Agenda For Change Band 8B	<=£50k
Agenda For Change Band 8A	<=£20k
Agenda For Change Band 7	<=£10k

Foot note 2 – Please note, the limits detailed in Table C apply to the approval of previously committed expenditure only. Expenditure which hasn't yet been committed must be committed in line with the limits in Table A.

From 1 October 2025, under the BOB and Frimley ICBs Cluster arrangements, there may be instances where staff employed by NHS BOB ICB may be required to manage Frimley financial budgets. In these cases, these staff will be issued with honorary contracts with Frimley ICB and financial approval limits will be delegated in accordance with Appendix A of this document.

Where extenuating circumstances require it and with prior authorisation from the appropriate budget holder through the completion of the Finance Non-PO Invoice Approval Form, the Deputy Chief Finance Officer, the System Finance and Performance Director and the Director of Finance – Business Partnering have the authority to approve non-purchase order invoices for payment on behalf of colleagues across the ICB, in line with the above delegated limits.

Invoices are no longer received for the NHS acute, community and mental health contracts, instead ICBs pay via an Invoice Payment File.

Given the nature of the ICB's relationship with system partners, Frimley Health Foundation Trust, Berkshire Healthcare FT and Surrey and Borders FT, an

exceptional limit is applicable to monthly limits as shown in the table below, which can be authorised by Band 9 Senior Finance Manager, above this limit CFO/CEO approval is required.

Table C1 Exceptional Limits for System Partners in terms of Invoice Payment File (IPF) Payments in accordance with agreed contract values (as per Footnote 2 above)	
Frimley Health Foundation Trust	£75m
Berkshire Health Foundation Trust	£12m
Surrey and Borders Foundation Trust	£6m

TABLE D Tenders and Quotations	
Formal tendering procedure must be applied where estimated contract value excess	£214,904
3 Competitive quotations unless less than 3 potential suppliers exist	>£10,000< £214,904
Informal price testing	£10,000

Footnote 3 – Table D follows limits and requirements set out in the Procurement Act 2023.

AUTHORITY LIMITS – Placements –

Table E High Cost Placements (Footnote 4)	
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director OR Chief Finance Officer	<£10,000 per week
Director covering the Continuing Health Care portfolio AND Deputy Chief Nursing Officer via Placement Panel	<£7,500 per week (see Footnote 5)
Head of Service (Agenda for Change Band 8d or 8c)	<£5,000 per week
Budget Holder OR Service Manager (Agenda for Change Band 7)	<=£1,300 per week

Footnote 4 - Revenue commitment is agreed as a weekly financial limit rather than total expenditure as the commissioner cannot estimate the likely length of most placements and therefore the total committed cost.

Footnote 5 – The Director covering the Continuing Health Care portfolio and Chief Nursing Officer constitute the “Risk Panel”. Types of decision will include:

- *1:1 support*
- *family refused by*
- *personal health budgets*
- *safeguarding or clinical concerns*

AUTHORITY LIMITS – Losses and Special Payment (In line with the Losses and Special Payment Guidance)

Table F All Losses (including cash, Fruitless Payments, Bad debts and Claims Abandoned)	
Approved by	Limit £
Chief Finance Officer	Up to £15,000
Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director	Up to £25,000
Board	Between £25,000 and £300,000
Assurance Team, NHS England	Over £300,000

Approval of Disposals and Condemnations	
Approved by	Limit £
Head of Service and Executive Director	Up to £5,000
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director	Over £5,000 to £100,000
Chief Finance Officer and Chief Executive Officer	Over £100,000 to £500,000
Board	Over £500,000

All losses and special payments, including the write-off of debts, must be reported to the Chief Finance Officer and will be reported to Audit Committee and will be reported in the annual statutory accounts.

Redundancy Payments and Special Severance Payments

Statutory/Contractual Redundancy Payments	
Up to £95,000 (Maximum allowable under NHS England rule)	Remuneration Committee
Special Severance and Retention Payments	
Review business case for redundancy, check the appropriate policy and guidance has been followed and make recommendation to NHSE	Remuneration Committee
Approval (and subject to an assurance process)	NHSE

Footnote 6

- ICBs must adhere to the guidance issued by NHS England and are bound by HM Treasury Guidance Managing Public Money and Guidance on Public Sector Exit Payments

PRIMARY CARE COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE & PHARMACY, OPTOMETRY AND DENTAL COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE and Delegated Funds

Table G	Approval of annual budgets and schemes within primary care budgets of appropriate ICB	Payments in accordance with agreed contract values – NHS England delegated funds only
Primary Care Commissioning Committee	Allocation of Delegated Funds only	-
Pharmacy, Optometry and Dental Commissioning Committee	Allocation of Delegated Funds only	-
Chief Finance Officer	-	No limit
Director of Primary Care Development	-	<=£10,000k
Deputy Chief Finance Officer OR System Financial and Performance Director	-	<=£10,000k
Director of Operations /Associate Directors of Primary Care	-	<=£1,000k

Primary Care Delegated Funds

Financial Provisions and Decision Making Limits are set out under SCHEDULE 5 of the Delegation Agreement between NHSE and the ICB in respect of the exercise of the Delegated Functions and, in particular, Table 1 in SCHEDULE 5 (*Financial Provisions and Decision Making Limits*) sets out certain financial limits and approvals required in relation to the exercise of the Delegated Functions.

Financial Limits and Approvals

1. The ICB shall ensure that any decisions in respect of the Delegated Functions and which exceed the financial limits set out below are only taken:
 - 1.1 by the following persons and/or individuals set out in column 2 of Table 1 below; and
 - 1.2 following the approval of NHS England (if any) as set out in column 3 of the Table 1 below.
2. NHS England may, from time to time, update Table 1 by sending a notice to the ICB of amendments to Table 1.

Table 1 – Financial Limits		
Decision	Person/Individual	NHS England Approval
General		
Taking any step or action in relation to the settlement of a Claim, where the value of the settlement exceeds £100,000	ICB Chief Executive Officer, Managing Director or Chief Finance Officer or Chair	NHS England Head of Legal Services and Local NHS England Team Director or Director of Finance
Any matter in relation to the Delegated Functions which is novel, contentious or repercussive	ICB Chief Executive Officer, Managing Director or Chief Finance Officer or Chair	Local NHS England Team Director or Director of Finance or NHS England Region Director or Director of Finance or NHS England Chief Executive, Managing Director or Chief Financial Officer
Revenue Contracts		
The entering into of any Primary Care Contract or Arrangement which has or is capable of having a term which exceeds five (5) years	ICB Chief Executive Officer, Managing Director or Chief Finance Officer or Chair	Local NHS England Team Director or Director of Finance
Capital Note: As at the date of this Agreement, the ICB will not have delegated or directed responsibility for decisions in relation to Capital expenditure (and these decisions are retained by NHS England) but the ICB may be required to carry out certain administrative services in relation to Capital expenditure under paragraph 13 (<i>Financial Provisions and Liability</i>).		

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