

In this issue

- [Only 18 firms remain for ProCure 21+](#)
- [Cost of medicines rise](#)
- [Report highlights gender gap in doctors' salaries](#)
- [NHS missed target on chlamydia screening, says watchdog](#)
- [Patient numbers could be halved](#)
- [North East London hospital shake-up consultation coming soon](#)
- [Newcastle makes switch to Cerner](#)
- [2.6% growth announced for Wales](#)
- [Doubt over future of treatment centre](#)
- [Hospital jobs in Leeds to be axed](#)
- [All new nurses to have degrees from 2013](#)
- [Cheshire and Wirral names chief executive](#)
- [NHS boss quits over cash for grit](#)
- [More Moves](#)

Forward

Know someone who might be interested in this email?

Forward it.

Only 18 firms remain for ProCure 21+

Less than a third of the 59 contractors that expressed an interest in the £4bn ProCure 21+ framework returned pre-qualification questionnaires. A huge battle was expected for places on the 6 year health capital investment framework after an initial deluge of expressions of interest. Just eight contractors are on the existing ProCure 21+ framework, which will be replaced by ProCure 21+ in September 2010. ProCure 21+ will vary from its predecessor by:

- Placing greater emphasis on the assurance of the build standards
- Meeting the requirements of the new and changing NHS landscape
- Enhancing the framework management to improve the quality of delivery

Invitations to tender will be given on 13 November with a maximum of 12 firms being appointed.

Source of Extract: Construction News

[back to top](#)

Cost of medicines rise

The cost of medicines in hospitals rose by 15.2% in 2008, compared with 3.4% overall, according to figures released by the Information Centre for Health and Social Care. Overall NHS expenditure on medicines in 2008 was £11.6bn. Hospitals use accounted for 28.7% of the total cost up from 25.8% in 2007.

Source of Extract: HFMA

[back to top](#)

Report highlights gender gap in doctors' salaries

The NHS pays thousands of pounds more to male doctors than their female counterparts, a report by the British Medical Association claims. The report says there is an overall average salary gap of £15,000 between male and female doctors in the UK. Female consultants typically earn £5,500 less than their male peers and female junior doctors earn around £2,000 less than their male counterparts, it claims.

Source of Extract: HSJ

NHS missed target on chlamydia screening, says watchdog

The NHS is accused today of failure, wasting money and missing key targets in its £150m campaign to curb the spread of the country's most common sexually transmitted disease. Problems in implementing the £150m national chlamydia screening programme (NCSP) means the total number of under-25s tested for the infection is significantly below target, says a National Audit Office (NAO) report. Only half of England's 152 primary care trusts manage to screen 26% of the young men and women in their areas for the disease, which if left untreated can lead to infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease and ectopic pregnancy. That is the minimum level of testing needed to ensure that the infection is controlled. Tests and follow-up treatment last year cost an average of £56 per person, although the Health Protection Agency, which oversees the NCSP, says that should be £33. Some £17m was spent unnecessarily last year because many primary care trusts paid too much for the tests, the audit office found. A total of 38,185 under-25s were tested last year, at schools, colleges and family planning clinics.

Source of Extract: The Guardian

Patient numbers could be halved

The number of patients treated at the Royal Free and Whittington would be almost halved under proposals for a merger of the two hospitals being considered by their boards. The two flagging NHS Trusts are in talks about coming together as a "single organisation" with a view to slashing patient numbers from 950,000 to 500,000 a year. Senior executives have held meetings this week with hospital staff about making a 7% budget saving across all hospital departments although plans are said to be in the early days of a complex process.

Source of Extract: Camden New Journal

North East London hospital shake-up consultation coming soon

Primary care trusts in north east London area are due to meet later this month to agree reconfiguration of hospital services proposals which are due to start before the end of this year, following discussions with the area's hospital trusts on changes to emergency surgery and medicine; paediatric, maternity and specialist services; and elective care. In a separate move, three acute trusts in the area - Homerton University Hospital Foundation Trust, Newham University Hospital Trust and Whipps Cross University Hospital Trust - have told staff they are considering an organisational merger. Other sectors in the capital - north central, north west and

south west - have been working towards reconfiguration proposals, but it is unclear whether they will consult on any changes in the near future. Changes affecting four trusts in south east London were agreed last year. Meanwhile, Kingston Hospital Trust, in south west London, has deferred its application for foundation trust status until February 2011 after NHS Kingston said it could not support it.

Source of Extract: HSJ

[back to top](#)

Newcastle makes switch to Cerner

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has successfully gone live with its new Cerner Millennium hospital information system. The trust says it achieved its main objective of 'business as usual', switching to the new system without disrupting patient services. Its new Cerner Millennium system is being implemented under a contract with University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre (UPMC) and Cerner. In the first phase of the project, the trust has gone live with inpatients, outpatient management and with Choose and Book, with the system fully connected to the NHS Spine.

Source of Extract: eHealth Insider

[back to top](#)

2.6% growth announced for Wales

Revenue funding for Welsh health and social services will increase by almost £146m (a rise of 2.6%) to £5.8bn in 2010/11, after planned efficiencies and savings of £91m have been taken into account, minister for finance and public service delivery Andrew Davies said. Managers predicted another tough year, with even greater efficiencies needed. Mr Davies' draft Budget, announced in October, showed the pressure being placed on public spending by the recession. The health and social services revenue funding is £40m less than outlined in indicative plans published in December 2008. The allocation includes £50m ring-fenced to support structural changes in the health service and meet increases in demand. Capital allocations would be £43.5m less than outlined last year, reflecting NHS England's capital reduction and the decision to bring forward capital expenditure from 2010/11 into earlier years. Mr Davies later announced that two NHS projects would be funded by the Welsh Assembly government's strategic capital investment fund – the £8.5m emergency care centre at Prince Charles Hospital and the £8m Children's Hospital for Wales. The funding is separate from departments' existing capital budgets.

Source of Extract: HFMA

[back to top](#)

Doubt over future of treatment centre

The boss of an independent treatment centre offering knee

and hip operations for Notts patients has admitted its future is uncertain. A five-year contract between primary care trusts in the county and Barlborough Treatment Centre runs out in March. But officials at the centre say they have not yet been contacted to say if it will be renewed. NHS bosses in Nottingham are remaining tight-lipped about negotiations over the contract.

Source of Extract: Nottingham Evening Post

[back to top](#)

Hospital jobs in Leeds to be axed

About 400 jobs are to go at hospitals in Leeds over the next five months, the city's health trust has said. The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust said the posts were being axed because it had to address a predicted £7m shortfall in income. A spokesman said the average monthly number of workers leaving the trust meant compulsory redundancies would not be necessary. A total of 277 posts have already gone at the trust, since April 2009. The trust currently employs about 14,500 staff.

Source of Extract BBC News

[back to top](#)

All new nurses to have degrees from 2013

All new nurses will have to hold a degree-level qualification to enter the profession from 2013, the health minister Ann Keen announced this week. The aim is to increase skills and train a medical workforce capable of operating in a more analytical and independent manner. Around a quarter of nursing students currently take degrees; the rest complete diplomas courses that usually last two years. The precise contents of the new degree courses, that will last three or four years, have not yet been finally agreed. The new standards are being developed by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), the professional regulator for nursing.

Source of Extract: The Guardian

[back to top](#)

Cheshire and Wirral names chief executive

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Foundation Trust has named Sheena Cumiskey as its new chief executive. Ms Cumiskey, who is currently chief executive of Trafford Primary Care Trust, will take up her new post early next year.

Source of Extract: HSJ online

[back to top](#)

NHS boss quits over cash for grit

NHS governor Kath Toward has resigned after Durham & Darlington primary care trust pledged £1m to help a council pay for extra road gritting. She has quit in protest at the PCT's decision to give the cash to Durham County Council in an attempt to prevent accidents. She said gritting was not a health issue and that the money should be spent on "struggling" NHS services.

Source of Extract: BBC Online

[back to top](#)

More Moves

Alison Tonge, Director of Health System Development at NHS North West has been appointed Executive Vice President of Strategy and Performance for Alberta Health Services in Canada. The former Stockport PCT Finance Director has joined the newly formed organisation this month.

Liverpool Health and Chest Hospital NHS Trust has appointed **Aaron Cummins** Director of Finance. He was previously Deputy Director of Finance. The Deputy Director of Finance post has gone to **Paul Ronald** previously from Warrington & Halton NHS Foundation Trust where he was Head of Financial Services.

Helen Simpson has been appointed Director of Finance at Betsi Cadwaladr University LHB. She is currently Director of Finance at South Staffordshire PCT - she will move to her new post in January.

Joe Corrigan is to become Director of Finance and Contracting at NHS North of Tyne. He moves from being Deputy Director of Finance at North Tyneside PCT.

Caroline Clarke has been appointed Managing Director of the new North Central London Commissioning Agency. This marks the return to the NHS for Ms Clarke who was formerly Director of Finance of Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust but has for the past two years worked as an associate partner at KPMG.

Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has appointed **Natalie Voigt** Director of Finance. She currently holds the post of Deputy Director of Finance at University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust - she takes up her new post this month and replaces **David Harding** who has retired.

Andrew Hall has been appointed Director of Finance and Estates at Oxfordshire Learning Disability NHS Trust. He replaces **John Derham** who will stay at with the Trust as Commercial Director until he retires next year.

NHS Gloucestershire Director of Business Development and Performance **Sarah Truelove** has been appointed Director of Finance at Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. She took up the post at the beginning of this month.

[back to top](#)

The views expressed in these articles are not necessarily those of Liaison.

If any of your colleagues wish to receive NHS Newsweek please e-mail Monica Allen on newsweek@liaisonfs.com.



THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT!

Liaison, Liaison Court, Vincent Road, Worcester, WR5 1BW, UK

Telephone: +44 (0)845 603 9000, Email newsweek@liaisonfs.com