PRESS STATEMENT

20 November 2015

New agency price caps have potential to help address unprecedented financial challenge facing NHS

Commenting on proposals from Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority (TDA) to introduce price caps for all agency staff from Monday 23 November 2015, Saffron Cordery, director of policy and strategy, NHS Providers, said:

“The implementation of hourly price caps for all agency staff and a cap on management consultancy spend has the potential to be a key part of returning the NHS to financial balance which is critical given the provider sector deficit of £1.6 billion at the mid-point of the year.

“Our members work incredibly hard to provide exceptional care every day. Monitor and the TDA have committed to supporting individual trusts with the difficult decisions required to implement the new rules, especially those facing financial, operational or local health economy challenges. This is vital. It is important that the regular monitoring process is implemented in a proportionate manner with minimum administrative burden so that the NHS frontline can focus on continuity of high quality care for all patients and service users.

“The success of the price caps will depend on all providers adhering to them so it is positive that Monitor and the TDA have listened to and responded to consultation feedback from providers. The full benefit of these measures will take time to realise and the focus now and in the long term must remain on ensuring that the NHS attracts the right number of people with the right mix of skills and experience to meet the local needs of their patients.”

Ends

Notes to editors
Watch our animation to find out more about who we are, who we represent, and what we do for our members.

About NHS Providers
- NHS Providers is the membership organisation for NHS acute hospitals, community, mental health and ambulance services
- NHS Providers acts as the public voice for those NHS trusts, helping to deliver high quality care by promoting shared learning, providing support and development and shaping the strategic system in which our members operate
- NHS Providers has more than 90% of all NHS foundation trusts and aspirant trusts in membership
- Follow NHS Providers on twitter @NHSP Provid ers and Chris Hopson, chief executive, @ChrisCEOHopson
- A full list of NHS Providers’ press releases can be viewed in the news section of our homepage www.nhsproviders.org
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