A National Framework For Electronic SAP Implementation - Briefing Paper

Background

There are different paces and approaches to implementing electronic SAP across the country, which cause uncertainty for local care communities and system suppliers and risk duplication of effort. There is a need to develop a consistent national framework so that implementation plans can be agreed and resource implications identified at both national and local levels.

Project Outline

A project has been initiated by NHS Connecting for Health to develop an implementation plan and business case for electronic SAP. A project board has been established, which will be chaired by David Johnstone, with representation from both health and social services, the DH, ODPM, DfES and the Cabinet Office.

The first stage of the project, which will be completed by the end of May 2006, will define and evaluate options for electronic SAP. Subsequent stages of the project will develop a plan and business case for implementation.

The project will take account of plans in the recent White Paper 'Our Health, Our Care, Our Say' to extend SAP into a Common Assessment Framework for adults and the need for the NHS and Local Authorities to have a systems architecture which is able to support integrated multi-agency working across all client groups.

The project will respond to the findings and recommendations of the National SAP Action Team, chaired by Dr Glenys Jones OBE. It will draw on existing experience of SAP implementation and on other work on multi-agency information sharing, including the ODPM FAME and DfES e-CAF projects, etc.

Project Governance

The project is co-sponsored by and will report to the NHS Connecting for Health National Programme Board, the Electronic Social Care Records Implementation Board and the Care Records Development Board.

The project will consult widely with stakeholders, including NHS and social care policy and information systems leads, SAP service users and practitioners, Local Service Providers and health and social care systems suppliers, Connecting for Health and other Government Departments.

Further Information & Contacts

For more information please contact either Jan Hoogewerf, Project Director, (jan.hoogewerf@porticoconsulting.co.uk) or Robin Stern, Project Manager (robin@medmosaic.co.uk). Project documents will be made available on the Centre for Policy on Ageing web-site (www.cpa.org.uk) and on the NHS CFH web-site (www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/crdb/sap).

Jan Hoogewerf, 28 February 2006