

Commissioning through Competition and Cooperation

Final Report

December 2015

Appendix

**Timeline of policy, regulation, guidance and key events
pertaining to competition and cooperation in the NHS
commissioning process in England, (March 2013 –
October 2015)**

Appendix 1. Timeline of policies, regulatory decisions and key events

Timeline of policy, regulation, guidance and key events pertaining to competition and cooperation in the NHS commissioning process in England, (March 2013 – October 2015)

	Date	Year	Document title	Type	Summary of information pertaining to competition and cooperation in the NHS	Source
1	6 March	2013	Neurosurgery at the Royal Free and UCLH: advice on transfer of services	Decision / guidance	Monitor's advice to the Office of Fair Trading on moving neurosurgery services from the Royal Free to University College London Hospitals. The report gives Monitor's view on whether the transfer would result in benefits to patients, concluding that it is not appropriate to treat the potential benefits submitted by the parties as relevant customer benefits for the purposes of the Office of Fair Trading's assessment under the Enterprise Act 2002.	Monitor
2	22 March	2013	Reviewing mergers involving NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts	Guidance	Monitor published guidance setting out the roles of Monitor, the Office of Fair Trading and the Competition Commission in reviewing mergers (or proposed mergers) between: 2 or more NHS foundation trusts; an NHS foundation trust and an NHS trust; 2 or more NHS trusts.	Monitor
3	27 March	2013	Guidance on Monitor's approach to market investigations in the healthcare sector in England	Draft guidance / consultation	Monitor announced a consultation of guidance on Monitor's approach to market investigations in the healthcare sector in England	Monitor
4	27 March	2013	Draft Guidance for providers of NHS-funded services: choice and competition licence conditions	Draft guidance / consultation	Monitor announced a consultation of the draft guidance on choice and competition licence conditions for providers	Monitor

5	27 March	2013	Guidance on application of the Competition Act 1998 in the healthcare sector	Draft guidance / consultation	Monitor announced a consultation of the guidance on the Application of the Competition Act 1998 in the healthcare sector	Monitor
6	27 March	2013	Merger benefits for NHS foundation trusts: Monitor's draft guidance	Draft guidance / consultation	Monitor announced a consultation of the guidance regarding merger benefits for NHS foundation trusts	Monitor
7	1 April	2013	Health and Social Care Act 2012	Act of Parliament	Health and Social Care Act comes into force. It includes Section 75 clause which among other things may impose a requirement for the commissioners to use competitive tendering when procuring services and adhere to best practice in procurement	www.legislation.gov.uk
8	1 April	2013	The National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No. 2) Regulations 2013	Statutory Instrument	Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 75, 76, 77 and 304(9) and (10) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 come into force	2013 No. 500
9	20 May	2013	Substantive guidance on the Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition Regulations	Draft guidance / consultation document	Monitor issues a consultation document paving the way for guidance to clarify how the rules on competition contained in the HSCA 2012 apply in practice.	Monitor
10	20 May	2013	Hypothetical case scenarios – Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition Regulations	Draft guidance / consultation document	Monitor publishes six hypothetical case scenarios considering how the National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No.2) Regulations 2013 might apply in these cases	Monitor

11	3 June	2013	Briefing note on the application of merger control rules to pathology service reconfigurations	Guidance	Monitor publishes guidance on circumstances in which pathology services reconfiguration can be viewed as a merger and therefore subject to review by OFT or Monitor.	Monitor
12	11 July	2013	The Royal Bournemouth And Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust/ Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Merger Inquiry Provisional findings report	Report	Provisional findings into the proposed merger published by the Competition Commission stating that the proposed merger, if carried into effect, would result in the creation of a relevant merger situation because it would result in the parties ceasing to be distinct pursuant to section 79(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (HSCA 2012) and because the turnover of each of RBCH and PH exceeded £70 million in the UK and the turnover test was therefore met.	Competition Commission
13	13 August	2013	Case: Proposed merger of Royal Free and Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals	Decision/guidance	Monitor published a review approving a proposed merger between Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust and Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust. The report concludes that the merger would be unlikely to result in significant costs to patients or taxpayers as a result of a loss of choice or competition.	Monitor
14	20 September	2013	Case: Proposed merger of University Hospitals Bristol and North Bristol NHS Trust	Decision / guidance	Monitor published its decision to reject the proposal of merger between University Hospitals Bristol and North Bristol NHS Trust. The report concludes that the proposals would reduce patient choice and competition and affect a substantial number of patients in the Bristol area on a long term basis. It states that the benefits of the merger would not outweigh these costs.	Monitor
15	10 October	2013	Case: Investigation into the commissioning of elective services in Blackpool	Formal investigation	Monitor opens first investigation into commissioning elective services in Blackpool area following Spire Healthcare Limited complaint that patients are being directed to other hospitals. In particular, the complaint alleges that the two CCGs (Blackpool CCG and Fylde and Wyre CCG) have sought to direct patients requiring elective care away from Spire Fylde Coast Hospital (Spire FCH) and towards Blackpool Victoria Hospital (BVH).	Monitor

16	17 October	2013	The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust/Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust A report on the anticipated merger of	Report	Competition Commission rejects a proposed merger between The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust on the grounds that it reduces competition in the market	Competition Commission
17	17 October	2013	Ensuring that patients' interests are at the heart of assessing public hospital mergers. Joint statement from the Office of Fair Trading, the Competition Commission and Monitor	Statement/ Guidance	Statement outlining the joint working between OFT, CC and Monitor in reviewing hospital mergers, in particular aiming to reduce the number of mergers proceeding to formal review stage (by involving Monitor at the early stages of merger proposal) and to reduce the length of review process itself.	Office of Fair Trading, the Competition Commission and Monitor
18	17 October	2013	Competition watchdog sees sharp rise in inquiries from CCGs	Press article	Monitor deluged by inquiries from CCGs unsure whether they need to tender services on open market. Monitor to publish guidance containing a series of scenarios to help commissioners decide whether rules apply or not.	<i>BMJ</i> 2013;347:f6137
19	22 October	2013	Monitor asked to consider hostility to new GP providers	Press article	Monitor held a "call for evidence" about the commissioning and provision of general practice. Monitor to publish the outcome of this exercise by the end of the year. In response some private providers complaining about GPs crowding out private providers from the market and general hostility.	HSJ
20	24 October	2013	Analysis: Merging trusts caught in 'catch-22'	Press article	Monitor has moved to address concerns that competition rules are thwarting much needed service reconfiguration. It follows warnings that clashing regulations are leaving trusts trying to merge in a "catch-22" situation.	HSJ

21	30 October	2013	Update on Monitor investigation into cancer services in Greater Manchester	Press release	Monitor's investigation into the commissioning of specialised cancer surgery services in Greater Manchester is to focus on whether NHS England and local providers broke NHS rules, which came into force on 1 April 2013	Monitor
22	8 November	2013	OFT clears London pathology services merger	Press article	The Office of Fair Trading has given merger control clearance for a pathology services joint venture between two London foundation trusts (UCLH and Royal Free London) and a private sector provider (The Doctors Laboratory)	HSJ
23	11 November	2013	Walk-in centre review: preliminary report	Report	Monitor publishes preliminary report into the provision of walk-in centres. In some cases, walk-in centre closures may adversely affect patients' access to primary care. The division of commissioning responsibilities between NHS England and CCGs for walk-in centres is causing confusion and could lead to decisions that do not take a system-wide view of the potential impact of changes to walk-in centre provision. Walk-in centres would work better for patients if payment mechanisms were reformed Final report to be published in January 2014.	Monitor
24	14 November	2013	CCGs told to work together as 'too small' for major change	Press report	A letter sent by NHS England and other national bodies is asking CCGs, local authorities and providers to draw up detailed plans for 2014-16, and high-level strategic plans covering five years. The five-year plans are expected to be a platform for major service change and a larger unit of planning is required for the development of consistent and integrated long-term strategic plans. The strategic plans should include quantifiable targets against seven quality indicators such as life years lost from treatable conditions, time spent avoidably in hospital, avoidable deaths in hospital and patient experience of inpatient and primary care.	HSJ
25	21 November	2013	Providers looking to challenge CCG decisions in blow to integration agenda	Press article	Reports of smaller providers looking to challenge CCGs' tendering decisions (especially relating to service integration and consortia forming) on the grounds of breaching competition regulations	Pulse

26	25 November	2013	OFT chief rejects need for law change on NHS merger controls	Press article	Clive Maxwell, CEO of OFT rejected the suggestion by NHS England chief executive Sir David Nicholson that the law needs to be amended to prevent the new system of competition regulation from obstructing improvement to NHS services. In his opinion early engagement of would be merger parties with Monitor and OFT – key to making sure the existing system works effectively	HSJ
27	2 December	2013	Practices 'could miss out on enhanced services' as CCGs begin putting them out to AQP	Press article	CCG in Essex plans to put out LES to AQP tender in order to avoid any potential legal challenges and accusations of conflict of interest	Pulse
28	4 December	2013	A healthy market? Lack of transparency raises doubts about NHS commissioning	Feature article	Article comments on secrecy surrounding Cambridgeshire's £800m tender for older people's services. Other tendering where private providers won by outbidding NHS providers on price (e.g. Suffolk/Serco). Reports on Monitor investigating NHS England area teams' specialist tendering or lack thereof following complaints from providers on the transparency of competitive tendering and whether the winners are ever really accountable.	BMJ
29	5 December	2013	Trust super-merger shelved	Press article	A merger that would have created the largest provider organisation in England has been shelved. King's College Hospital, Guy's and St Thomas' and South London and Maudsley foundation trusts along with the university King's College London decided to halt the process citing doubts that such a merger would have been approved by the regulators	HSJ
30	6 December	2013	Exclusive: Health Act to be changed to boost joint commissioning	Press article	The Department of Health is proposing to change the Health Act 2012 to allow CCGs to delegate decisions to joint committees featuring two or more of them, or with NHS England. It would make it easier to make decisions spanning specialised and primary services – which are the responsibility of NHS England – and community and general hospital care, which is funded by CCGs. "The DH is proposing to use a legislative reform order, a mechanism which can change the law without a new bill, to "reduce burdens" resulting from legislation".	HSJ

31	13 December	2013	Controversial Serco GP contract cut short	Press article	Serco contract for GP OOH in Cornwall will terminate in May 2015 as CCG moves to new model of OOH care. Issues with falsifying records and understaffing	HSJ
32	13 December	2013	Leading foundation trusts explore moves into primary care	Press article	University Hospitals Birmingham and Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals foundation trusts plan to take over primary care providers in their cities and establish vertically integrated provider organisations; The Newcastle foundation trust already runs a minority of primary care services in the city, through Freeman Clinics – a joint venture with local GPs set up in 2008 and is a community provider. It wants to move into provision of GP OOH care as well. These aspirations raise concerns of existing community provider (Birmingham).	HSJ
33	13 December	2013	Julie Moore: leading trusts could run hospital chains	Press article	Dame Julie Moore (CEO of University Hospitals Birmingham) told <i>HSJ</i> she wanted to see top providers running chains of hospitals, arguing the district general hospital could be redefined as an outpost of a larger trust. Analogy with Tesco superstore and Tesco metro.	HSJ
34	13 December	2013	Public turns against NHS use of private providers	Press article	Ipsos Mori asked 1,009 people if they agreed with the statement: 'As long as health services are free of charge, it doesn't matter to me whether they are provided by the NHS or a private company'. It found that 47% of people disagreed with this statement, an increase of 11 percentage points on the number of people who disagreed when asked in February 2011. However, it also found that people are less likely to be against external providers who are charity or voluntary organisations.	Pulse
35	17 December	2013	NHS procurement standards updated	Press release	NHS England has updated procurement guidance with new documents covering peer review and the evidence used to support procurement processes. The evidence tool suggests what evidence should be reviewed to meet procurement standards. The associated peer review guidance provides NHS organisations with an objective review process.	NHS Networks website https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-procurement-standards

36	18 December	2013	Science centres to be 'hubs' of specialised services	Press article	NHS England plans to concentrate provision of specialised services into 15 to 30 centres where “the highest quality can be delivered” from current level of over 300 organisations commissioned to provide such services. Academic health science centres should become the “hubs” of specialised services.	HSJ
37	19 December	2013	Procurement, patient choice and competition regulations: guidance	Statutory guidance	Monitor finalised and published the guidance on application of Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition Regulations 2013. It consists of Substantive Guidance on the Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition Regulations, Briefing Note, Enforcement Guidance, Hypothetical Case Scenarios and Consultation Response	Monitor
38	19 December	2013	Competition rules still impeding service change, say hospital bosses	Press article	According to HSJ/Capstick survey Hospital chief executives still feel the competition and merger control rules introduced under the government’s NHS reforms are making it difficult to carry out important reconfigurations. Asked to rate out of 10 how obstructive the current regulations were to service change, with one being no impediment and 10 indicating impossibility, the average across chief executives was 6.8.	HSJ
39	19 December	2013	Primary care commissioning is 'a mess' admits NHS England director	Press article	Proposal by NHS England that CCG should commission primary care (in particular OOH care) jointly with NHSE area teams, as the latter are too removed from the local situation to be effective commissioners. Yet BMA voices concerns over conflict of interest this will create and that GPs will have to performance manage own contracts.	Pulse
40	23 December	2013	CCG tells local GPs to federate or face loss of enhanced services contracts	Press article	GPs in Newham were told that they have to federate or face the removal of local enhanced services worth up to 15% of their practice income. This is in order to achieve economies of scale to be able to win the contracts for services. Under the new competition regulations, CCGs will need to procure LESs from April, unless they can prove that the services can only be provided by a single provider.	Pulse
41	3 January	2014	Local enhanced services worth millions to be opened up to competition from April	Press article	Some CCGs and local authorities are planning to put local enhanced services out to tender from April 2014 using AQP or full tender route. Pulse approached every CCG in England asking them how they plan to recommission existing local enhanced services (LESs) from April. Some 48	Pulse

					CCGs replied, with 23 having made a decision so far. Of these, nine said they plan to put some or all of their LESs out to tender – with the contracts collectively worth just over £2m.	
42	4 January	2014	Bournemouth and Poole agree not to merge for a decade	Press article	Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals and Poole Hospital FTs whose planned merger was blocked last year have signed an undertaking not to attempt to merge again for the next 10 years.	HSJ
43	6 January	2014	Monitor to protect essential services by licensing independent providers	Press release	From April 2014, independent providers needing a licence and registration with the Care Quality Commission can get both through a joint process. This is in order to protect essential services in cases of provider failure.	Monitor
44	7 January	2014	Circle mulls bid to partner Peterborough with Hinchingsbrooke	Press article	Private provider Circle could table a rescue bid for debt-stricken Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals Foundation Trust involving partnering it with nearby Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust.	HSJ
45	7 January	2014	Monitor kicks off independent provider licencing process	Press article	From April 2014 all independent providers with a turnover from NHS-funded care exceeding £10m or delivering services deemed “essential” by commissioners will need a licence to operate.	HSJ
46	10 January	2014	Northamptonshire Healthcare drops out of £800m contract race	Press article	Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation Trust withdrew, following other bidders, from bidding for older people services contract in Cambridgeshire.	HSJ
47	13 January	2014	Private firm withdraws George Eliot bid	Press article	Ramsey Healthcare has withdrawn their bid to run George Eliot Hospital Trust. Ramsey’s withdrawal leaves four bidders: South Warwickshire Foundation Trust, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire Trust, Care UK and Circle Partnership.	HSJ
48	16 January	2014	Private hospital groups forced to sell sites	Press article	Two private hospital operators (HCA and BMI Healthcare) have been told by the Competition Commission that they must sell off nine hospitals between them in order to improve competition in the private healthcare market.	HSJ

49	21 January	2014	Legal challenge issued over £16m service tender	Press article	Bexley CCG is facing a legal challenge over the procurement of £16.6m in services using the innovative prime contractor model. The contract would entail a lead provider receiving an outcomes based payment to integrate the entire care pathway and then subcontracting work to other organisations. The challenge came after the CCG overrode the recommendation of the trust special administrator appointed to oversee the break-up of South London Healthcare Trust that Dartford and Gravesham Trust should run high-volume elective services at Queen Mary's Hospital in Bexley until April 2015.	HSJ
50	23 January	2014	Bennett sets out new approach for merger and failure	Press article	David Bennett said Monitor would support trusts to build a robust case for merger by engaging with trusts informally when they first considered a merger and again, more formally, once a trust had identified its preferred form.	HSJ
51	23 January	2014	Monitor watching CCG procurement decisions 'closely'	Press article	Monitor is closely observing the decisions clinical commissioning groups are making about transforming community services contracts.	HSJ
52	24 January	2014	Ricketts: CSU privatisation 'doesn't fit with NHS values'	Press article	Commissioning support units will not be sold off when they are made independent, in part due to a lack of support for full scale privatisation from clinical commissioning groups, NHS England has confirmed.	HSJ
53	24 January	2014	CCGs tell Serco to improve service	Press article	Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG and West Suffolk CCG said that after completing a four-month probe they had found no evidence of harm to patients, but they did tell the private provider (Serco) to improve in a range of areas.	HSJ
54	28 January	2014	Oxfordshire CCG compromises on controversial contracting plan	Press article	Oxfordshire CCG will accept a set of concessions, which reflect the DH's recommendations and demands made late last year by Oxford Health Foundation Trust and Oxford University Hospitals Trust to scrap plans to introduce outcomes based contracting for maternity services - one of three service areas it was planning to radically redesign.	HSJ

55	29 January	2014	Integrated care pioneer voted out by GPs	Press article	Dr Stephen Richards, CEO of Oxfordshire CCG and a driving force behind attempt to introduce outcome based commissioning has been voted out of the post by GPs.	HSJ
56	31 January	2014	Case: Investigation into the commissioning of cancer services in Manchester	Formal investigation	Monitor closed an investigation into commissioning of cancer surgery services in Greater Manchester by NHS England (formerly NHS Greater Manchester) following complaints by University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust and Stockport NHS Foundation Trust. The investigation was closed as NHS England decided to change the commissioning process in this case.	Monitor
57	5 February	2014	Serco pledges commitment to direct care role	Press article	Serco confirmed its commitment to providing community care services after signing a deal with social enterprise Bromley Healthcare to advise it on its troubled Suffolk contract. Serco won a £140m three-year contract to run Suffolk Community Healthcare in 2012, although its work has been beset with performance problems.	HSJ
58	5 February	2014	Fifth of GPs intend to work with other practices to win enhanced services contracts	Press article	Pulse survey reveals that 22% of GPs are planning to form alliances with other practices to bid for enhanced service contracts.	Pulse
59	20 February	2014	Local authority keeps all public health LESs with local GPs	Press article	Brent decided to allow GPs to retain all public health enhanced services without them being put out to full tender or be subject to AQP. LMCs lobby other councils to follow suit.	Pulse
60	21 February	2014	New strategy for south west London reconfiguration	Press article	Six CCGs (Croydon, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Wandsworth and Sutton) in South West London have formally dismantled their Better Services Better Value programme designed to reconfigure acute services. However, they admit service change is still required.	HSJ
61	26 February	2014	Case closure decision on the commissioning	Formal investigation	In June 2013 Monitor opened investigation into commissioning of radiosurgery services after receiving a complaint from Thornbury Radiosurgery Centre Limited. The complaint related to the conduct and	Monitor

			of radiosurgery services Case CCD 01/13		procurement practices of the North of England Specialised Commissioning Group and of its successor from 1 April 2013, NHS England. The case was closed because NHS England confirmed that it entered into a contract with Thornbury. The investigation did not make findings in relation to the matters under investigation, and, in particular, whether or not the conduct carried on by NHS England or its predecessor was consistent with the applicable rules.	
62	7 March	2014	Community trust out of running for £800m integrated care contract	Press article	Cambridgeshire Community Services Trust's bid for a £800m older people's services contract for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has been rejected, while implementation of the project has been delayed by six months. The trust, which is the main current provider of the services affected by the tender, had jointly bid for the contract with Optum, formerly UnitedHealth UK.	HSJ
63	11 March	2014	Integration 'pioneers' issue tender for 10 year contracts	Press article	Commissioners in Staffordshire are inviting providers to bid for two ten-year contracts for integrated services worth a total of £1.2bn. Four clinical commissioning groups last week issued a pre-qualification questionnaire for a single provider for end of life care and cancer care services. The tender process is being run by Strategic Projects Team, which is currently hosted by Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit. The entire care pathway for cancer will be tendered at a value of £687m over 10 years under the 'prime provider' model.	HSJ
64	11 March	2014	Competition rules may need to be applied differently to healthcare, says Hunt	Press article	England's health secretary has urged competition authorities to go easy on the NHS after the costly, failed merger of two trusts in the south of England last year. Speaking on 6 March to an audience of health service leaders, Jeremy Hunt admitted that the new competition regime introduced by the Health and Social Care Act last year had not been "smooth sailing." He suggested that the competition authorities may have been over interpreting their role in such hospital mergers as the one that fell foul of the authorities in Dorset last year.	BMJ
65	12 March	2014	Brighton and Sussex and Surrey and Sussex pathology services:	Decision / guidance	Monitor published the results of its review into proposed merger between Brighton and Sussex and Surrey and Sussex pathology services approving the merger. Monitor concluded that the merger is not likely to have a	Monitor

			advice on proposed merger		negative effect on patients and taxpayers as a result of a loss of choice or competition.	
66	14 March	2014	CCG wins legal battle over contract suspension	Press article	Lewisham and Greenwich Trust and Dartford and Gravesham Trust were unsuccessful in their attempts to challenge a procurement exercise run by Bexley CCG which awarded £16m in musculoskeletal work to King's College Hospital Foundation Trust. They had previously been awarded these services in the special administration process which dissolved South London Healthcare Trust in October 2013. Yet Bexley CCG put the services to tender and awarded them to KCH FT. All parties agreed to discontinue the legal challenge.	HSJ
67	19 March	2014	Richmond CCG pioneers outcomes-based commissioning of community health services	Press article	Richmond CCG governing body agreed to re-commission its community health and social care services on the basis of outcomes. The CCG says such contracts transfer appropriate risk to providers and create the circumstances and incentives that allow them to innovate and profit from success, provided they can manage costs and deliver the outcomes commissioners want. To deliver those outcomes and make the efficiency savings necessary to stay within the allocated budget, providers must collaborate, problem solve and deliver efficient, integrated services.	Inside Commissioning
68	21 March	2014	Cornwall integration pioneer planning county wide roll out	Press article	A partnership between the NHS and voluntary sector which is credited with reducing emergency admissions by nearly a third is set to be rolled out across Cornwall over the next 18 months. The Newquay Pathfinder, which was central to Cornwall's successful bid to be a Department of Health integration pioneer, also led to a reduction in social care costs of almost 6 per cent. Under the pathfinder the 100 Newquay residents most at risk of hospital admission and with at least two long term conditions received targeted support aimed at improving their overall wellbeing.	HSJ
69	27 March	2014	GP commissioners given green light to sidestep competition process for well-performing services	Press article	GPs have been given a boost in their bid to hold on to enhanced service income after the healthcare regulator told CCGs they can avoid putting services out to competitive tender if providers are already meeting the needs of patients. Speaking at the Commissioning Live conference yesterday, David Furness, a competition adviser at Monitor, said CCGs	HSJ

					should continue services that are 'working well' without putting them out to a full tender process or via the 'Any Qualified Provider' route.	
70	27 March	2014	Competition to run district general hospital is abandoned	Press article	A tender process for the running of George Eliot Hospital Trust has been abandoned, it was announced today. The three remaining bidders in the process, run by the NHS Trust Development Authority, were South Warwickshire Foundation Trust, which wanted to take the trust over, and Circle and Care UK, which had both submitted bids to run it as a franchise. According to George Eliot's chief executive, the decision to scrap the process was due to recent improvements in clinical performance, particularly in its emergency department and avoidable harm. He also indicated that an ongoing national review of how hospital chains could be established in the NHS was a factor.	HSJ
71	27 March	2014	Bristol CCG plans £250m community services tender	Press article	Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group has approved plans to tender the city's community health services and said it anticipates significant interest in the contract from providers across the country.	HSJ
72	28 March	2014	Major pathology reorganisation to go ahead after OFT all clear	Press article	The NHS's biggest pathology reorganisation will take place in May, after the Office of Fair Trading ruled it would not be investigating the plan further. The competition watchdog announced that the consolidation, which involves six trusts and will be hosted by Cambridge University Hospitals Foundation Trust, does not qualify for OFT scrutiny. Cambridge University Hospitals and Ipswich Hospital Trust will be hubs carrying out most pathology work for the area. East and North Hertfordshire and Hinchingsbrooke Health Care trusts, and Colchester Hospital University and West Suffolk Foundation Trusts will retain host satellite laboratories which will carry out only urgent work.	HSJ
73	March	2014	The Legislative Reform (Clinical Commissioning Groups) Order 2014	Draft Statutory Instrument	The purpose of the order is to enable joint commissioning and co-commissioning between different CCGs and CCGs and NHS England. The order comes into force on 1 st of October 2014.	Legislation.gov.uk
74	March	2014	Explanatory Document to accompany draft Legislative Reform	Guidance	The purpose of the draft Order is to amend the National Health Service Act 2006. The Department wishes to remove this burden by amending section 1423 of the NHS Act to provide that, where any two or more CCGs are	Department of Health

			Order 2014. Amending the National Health Service Act 2006		exercising their functions jointly, they may do so by way of a joint committee. There is also an identified need for CCGs and NHS England to be able to jointly exercise a CCG commissioning function and to form a joint committee when doing so.	
75	3 April	2014	Commissioner serves notice on East Sussex contract over quality concerns	Press article	A Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group has voted to serve notice on its community services contract with East Sussex Healthcare Trust after flagging concerns with the current offering. High Weald Lewes Havens CCG has served 12 months' notice on its £18m a year community services contract with the financially troubled provider. The CCG is hoping the 12 month window will give them a chance to work with East Sussex to develop a long-term plan for improving the area's community services.	HSJ
76	4 April	2014	Second proposed FT merger under competition scrutiny	Press article	The Competition and Markets Authority has begun a review of the proposed merger between Frimley Park Hospital Foundation Trust and its troubled neighbour Heatherwood and Wexham Park. The planned merger is being sought as a means to assure the future of services at Heatherwood and Wexham Park, following long-running financial problems and repeated care failings.	HSJ
77	4 April	2014	Commissioning of radiosurgery services: guidance following case closure Case CCD 01/13	Guidance	Monitor has published guidance to commissioners based on the learning from Case CCD 01/13. The guidance covers the following areas: prioritisation and commissioning; using evidence in decision-making; acting transparently; publishing details of all contracts awarded.	Monitor
78	4 April	2014	CCG awards £2.3m worth of enhanced services to new GP federation	Press article	NHS South Worcestershire CCG intends to continue all of the current local enhanced contracts, which have a total value of £2.3m, by contracting SW Healthcare Limited as one 'prime provider' of all services. This is the first known instance of a CCG commissioning all its enhanced services out to a new GP-led provider organisation.	Pulse
79	7 April	2014	NHS England planning new choice and competition research	Press article	NHS England is planning to conduct new research on choice and competition in the NHS, according to the organisation's latest business plan. A central goal of this work is for NHS England, in cooperation with Monitor	HSJ

					and the Department of Health, to develop and implement a policy research programme focused on choice and competition by March 2015.	
80	7 April	2014	Preferred bidder named in Bristol mental health tender	Press article	A mental health trust which faced losing business worth £30m due to quality concerns has been named as the preferred bidder for the main lot in a highly contested tender for the services. Commissioners in Bristol decided to tender services provided by the £195m turnover Avon and Wiltshire Partnership Trust in November 2012, following repeated failed attempts to get the provider to improve service quality. The contract was split into five lots. The first and largest lot, for community mental health services, was worth about £17m a year.	HSJ
81	9 April	2014	Serco estimates £18m losses on health contracts	Press article	Serco has estimated it will rack up losses of nearly £18m on three flagship NHS contracts in the coming years. The company has made provisions in its 2013 accounts for substantial future losses on contracts in Suffolk, Cornwall and Braintree – two of which it is terminating early.	HSJ
82	10 April	2014	New NHS England chief 'more sympathetic' to competition, says Bennett	Press article	Monitor's chief executive has told HSJ it will be easier for the regulator to assuage commissioners' concerns about NHS competition rules now that Sir David Nicholson is no longer in charge of NHS England. David Bennett said Simon Stevens, who took over as NHS England chief executive this month, was probably more sympathetic to the role that competition and choice can play in the health service.	HSJ
83	16 April	2014	Circle awarded £120m MSK contract	Press article	Private provider Circle has become Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's prime contractor for its integrated musculoskeletal service after scooping a £120m five-year contract. The CCG named Circle as its preferred bidder to consolidate 20 separate contracts into a single service in August. Earlier this month Sheffield CCG agreed to commission city-wide integrated musculoskeletal services on a five year outcome based contract, which could be worth £40m a year. However, the CCG awarded prime contractor status to Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust rather than put it out to tender.	HSJ
84	23 April	2014	Consortium wins £210m MSK contract	Press article	A four-strong consortium of Sussex providers has scooped a five-year musculoskeletal contract worth £210m. The group was formed as the	HSJ

					Sussex Musculoskeletal Partnership and includes Brighton and Hove Integrated Care Service; Horder Healthcare; Sussex Community Trust; and Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust. The contract was awarded by Brighton and Hove, Crawley and Horsham and Mid Sussex clinical commissioning groups.	
85	24 April	2014	Independent sector profits from lack of NHS secure beds	Press article	A lack of secure inpatient NHS beds has driven a £21m overspend in NHS England's budget for independent sector mental health providers.	HSJ
86	6 May	2014	Pioneering pathology joint venture posts multi-million pound profit	Press article	One of the first public-private joint venture pathology services for the NHS has posted its first multi-million pound profit since its launch in 2009, its accounts reveal. GSTS Pathology, a joint venture set up by Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust and outsourcer Serco, posted a £3.8m net profit for the year ending December 2013, up from £300,000 in 2012.	HSJ
87	14 May	2014	Competition authority gives green light to Heatherwood and Frimley Park merger	Press article	The proposed acquisition of Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals Foundation Trust by Frimley Park Hospital Foundation Trust has been cleared by the Competition and Markets Authority. The CMA concluded competition would not be significantly weakened because of strongly-performing NHS hospitals located nearby which offer similar services. It listed Royal Berkshire Hospital Foundation Trust, Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals Foundation Trust, Royal Surrey Country Hospital, and the Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital.	HSJ
88	20 May	2014	Trusts should 'twin' to boost income abroad	Press article	NHS organisations are being encouraged to 'twin' with hospitals in countries like China as part of an effort by the government to help them secure international business deals.	HSJ
89	29 May	2014	Urgent call for clarification on commissioning rules	Press article	A row between commissioners and a private midwifery service in Leeds has sparked calls for urgent clarification around commissioning rules. The dispute has arisen between three clinical commissioning groups – Leeds South and East, Leeds West and Leeds North – and One to One Midwives, a private provider currently commissioned by four CCGs in Merseyside and Cheshire.	HSJ

90	May	2014	Our new approach to transactions: consultation responses and next steps	Consultation	Monitor announced the results of consultation on proposed changes to its assessment of mergers between NHS organisations.	Monitor
91	4 June	2014	Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: advice on proposed merger.	Decision / guidance	Monitor published its advice to the Competition and Markets Authority on the anticipated acquisition by Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust approving the merger.	Monitor
92	5 June	2014	CCG proposes awarding community contracts without competition	Press article	Consultation paper prepared by Northern, Eastern and Western Devon CCG, proposes that the bulk of community services, including community hospitals, would be awarded without competition. The CCG aims not to tender services currently provided by Northern Devon Healthcare Trust in the north and east, and Plymouth Community Healthcare Trust in the west.	HSJ
93	11 June	2014	CCGs could be caught out by 'technical' legal challenge	Press article	A South West clinical commissioning group has reached an out of court agreement with NHS campaigners who claimed its policies on patient and public involvement were unlawful. Bristol CCG maintains that in substance it has had proper arrangements for public involvement in place since its inception in April 2013. However, following the challenge by Protect Our NHS it has agreed to amend its procurement policy and constitution to describe the arrangements for public involvement in more detail.	HSJ
94	16 June	2014	GP commissioners consider diverting funding to APMS contracts under 'frightening' proposals	Press article	A CCG is considering using directed enhanced service funding for a new model of primary care that would see practices switching to APMS contracts in proposals described as 'frightening in the extreme' by local leaders. In its plans to co-commission primary care, NHS Basildon and Brentwood CCG wants to pilot a 'Prime Provider' model of primary care by 2015/16, which would involve practices working as part of an umbrella organisation involving mental health, acute care and social care professionals.	Pulse

95	17 June	2014	Optum and Capita bid for lead provider framework	Press article	The private firms Optum and Capita have placed bids to join NHS England's lead provider framework for commissioning support services, HSJ understands. Under the framework NHS England is expected to award quality assured status to between 10-15 support service providers. It is expected to go live in January next year.	HSJ
96	17 June	2014	Bidder for £800m integrated care contract pulls out at final stage	Press article	One of the bidders in the running for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group's £800m integrated older people's services contract has dropped out at the final stage. Accord Health is no longer in the running for the contract, the CCG has confirmed. Accord Health is a consortium including construction and support services giant Interserve, North Essex Partnership Foundation Trust and Provide, which was formerly Central Essex Community Services.	HSJ
97	20 June	2014	FT subsidiary takes over Circle clinic	Press article	SWFT Clinical Services, a subsidiary of South Warwickshire Foundation Trust, will take over the clinic in Stratford-upon-Avon next month. The clinic, previously known as Circle Clinic Stratford, is attached to a local GP practice. The practice will retain ownership of the facility, which provides outpatient services including diagnostics and day surgery to private patients. Circle stopped providing services at the clinic in April to focus on inpatient services.	HSJ
98	25 June	2014	Around 180 CCGs bid for primary care co-commissioning	Press article	Bids to co-commission primary care have been submitted by around 180 of England's 211 clinical commissioning groups.	HSJ
99	26 June	2014	Exclusive: Monitor launches probe of community service contracts	Press article	Monitor has launched an investigation into clinical commissioning groups' intentions for the £10bn community services sector. The questionnaire was sent out to every CCG to scope the current state of the market in a bid to gather intelligence about how commissioners plan to improve community services.	HSJ
100	26 June	2014	Delay to merger increases costs by £3m	Press article	A proposed merger between Ealing Hospital Trust and North West London Hospitals Trust has been delayed by three months at a cost of £3m. The delay cost - revealed in North West London's June board papers - will allow	HSJ

					the trust to ensure the financial model for the merger takes account of a 2014-15 contract agreement between the two providers.	
101	2 July	2014	Big jump in private share of NHS community services market	Press article	A new study by the Nuffield Trust which reveals that the share of NHS community health service funding going to private providers has sharply increased in recent years. One pound in every five spent on community services in 2012-13 was on private providers. This represented a 34 per cent increase in community services funding going to the private sector in one year alone.	HSJ
102	5 July	2014	Better Care Fund bailout for acute trusts is agreed.	Press article	The Department of Health has announced that Better Care Fund cash will be used to compensate acute hospitals when local integration initiatives fail to reduce emergency admissions.	HSJ
103	8 July	2014	Manchester launches consultation on major hospital care shake-up	Press article	NHS England has given the green light for public consultation on a major reconfiguration of general surgery and emergency care across eight acute trusts in Greater Manchester.	HSJ
104	9 July	2014	Cambridgeshire delays £800m frail elderly restructure	Press article	One of the NHS's most high profile service restructures has had its start date delayed for a second time following warnings services could be destabilised unless the timetable is extended.	HSJ
105	21 July	2014	Care UK wins bid to run minor injury unit	Press article	Healthcare operator Care UK has won a bid to manage the Royal South Hants Hospital's minor injury unit (MIU) from 1 August. Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group selected Care UK following a tendering process overseen by the NHS South of England Procurement Service.	HSJ
106	11 July	2014	Somerset shortlists for 111 and OOH	CCG announcement	Four bidders have been shortlisted to provide NHS 111 and out of hours primary care services in Somerset, in one of the first NHS 111 re-procurements to be run. Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group is seeking closer integration of the two services and sought bids from organisations interested in managing one or both of them.	HSJ
107	11 July	2014	NHS England to outsource £100m	Press article	NHS England has announced it will go to open procurement to outsource its £100m primary care support services functions. The authority said it decided to go to market after receiving legal advice on an offer to take over	HSJ

			primary care admin function.		the service from Shared Services Connected Ltd, a Cabinet Office joint venture.	
108	15 July	2014	Trust merger delayed amid financial wrangling.	Press article	The planned merger of Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals and Frimley Park Hospital foundation trusts has been delayed due to legal, financial and other practical challenges.	HSJ
109	17 July	2014	Third of CCGs do not plan to retender community services	Press article	More than a third of clinical commissioning groups have no plans to retender their community services, an HSJ investigation has revealed. Of 195 CCGs that responded to HSJ's freedom of information requests, 72 commissioners holding community services contracts worth at least £2.3bn annually said they had no plans to retender. Seven CCGs had already retendered contracts worth around £156m in total, and 39 had plans to retender £998m worth of contracts by 2017.	HSJ
110	24 July	2014	Exclusive: Hinchingsbrooke backtracks on controversial £50 referrals offer	Press article	The NHS hospital run by private provider Circle has been forced to withdraw an offer to pay local GPs a £50 'administrative fee' for surgery referrals, claiming the proposal had been misunderstood in some areas. The offer from Cambridgeshire based Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust came in an email that was circulated earlier this week to nearby GPs. However, the offer was withdrawn in a second email - also signed by Dr Abdel-Rahman - sent out the following day.	HSJ
111	24 July	2014	Manchester trust calls for suspension of Healthier Together consultation	Press article	A teaching hospital, whose services are threatened by a major shakeup of acute care in Greater Manchester, has called for a 'flawed' consultation on the plan to be suspended.	HSJ
112	28 July	2014	£1.2bn Staffordshire procurement defended	Press article	Most cancer and end of life care services in Staffordshire are unlikely to change providers following a £1.2bn contract procurement, which would mean most of the services will carry on being provided by the same organisations, but some contracts would not necessarily be given to a provider of services.	HSJ

113	28 July	2014	Complying with Monitor's integrated care requirements	Report	The report details what Monitor means by 'integrated care': To help organisations work across traditional boundaries to better deliver care and support that meets the needs of patients and service users, there needs to be a common language and a shared understanding of the term integrated care.	Monitor
114	28 July	2014	Major reorganisation of specialist cancer and cardiac treatment approved	Press article	A reorganisation of specialist cancer and cardiac treatment across north east London and West Essex that will see two major hospitals host one specialism each was given the green light by commissioners last week. The plans, which include the creation of a specialist heart centre at Barts Health Trust and specialist cancer treatment based at University College London Hospitals Foundation Trust, was voted through unanimously by NHS England and the five clinical commissioning groups in the area.	HSJ
115	29 July	2014	Hospitals to scrutinise integration plans	Press article	Guidance published last week by the Local Government Association and NHS England said councils and CCGs would be required to share their forecasts for reductions in emergency hospital admissions with local acute providers. These commentaries are expected to prove highly influential when the Department for Communities and Local Government and NHS England decide whether to sign off local plans.	HSJ
116	31 July	2014	First CCG merger approved	Press article	A proposal by three clinical commissioning groups in the north east to merge has been approved by NHS England. <i>HSJ</i> revealed the plans of Gateshead, Newcastle North and East and Newcastle West CCGs in February. The groups will merge in April next year.	HSJ
117	31 July	2014	Supporting NHS providers considering transactions and mergers	Guidance	NHS providers considering a merger are urged to contact Monitor early in their planning to ensure proposals work well for patients. Monitor will then provide expert support at an early stage to help foundation trusts understand whether a particular merger is the best way forward and makes sense from quality, operational, financial and (where relevant) choice and competition perspectives.	Monitor and Competition and Markets Authority
118	4 August	2014	Devon procurement plan resisted by	Press article	A Devon commissioner's plan to award community services contracts without putting them out to tender has been resisted by competing providers and a local authority. The opposition was revealed as the	HSJ

			providers and local council		Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group received around 260 responses to a consultation on the plan which was unveiled earlier this summer. While Devon County Council and other NHS providers are understood to have stopped short of a formal challenge, sources said discussions were taking place.	
119	6 August	2014	Full scale of DH bailout of trusts revealed	Press article	One in four hospital trusts received bailout funding from the Department of Health last year, with several receiving financial aid worth more than 10 per cent of their turnover.	HSJ
120	6 August	2014	Private firms and local authorities in running to provide commissioning support	Press article	Private firms and two local authorities are in the running for a place on a lead provider framework that will determine which organisations supply back office services to clinical commissioning groups from next year.	HSJ
121	7 August	2014	Trusts wins council social care contract	Press article	South Tyneside Foundation Trust has won a 10 year local authority contract to run an integrated care services hub. The contract for the project was tendered by South Tyneside County Council and is supported with a £9.5m loan from the Department of Health's independent trust finance facility.	HSJ
122	8 August	2014	Monitor 'reluctantly' allows delay to Peterborough tender	Press article	Monitor has granted Peterborough and Stamford Foundation Trust a short delay to its planned tender for a partner to help it secure financial sustainability.	HSJ
123	12 August	2014	Lord Carter urged to slash procurement frameworks	Press article	The government is being urged to slash the number of procurement frameworks as part of its drive to reform the way the health service buys goods and services. The call came in an appeal to NHS procurement champion Lord Carter from industry suppliers and NHS buyers.	HSJ
124	13 August	2014	Single re-procurement planned for West Midlands NHS 111	Press article	NHS 111 services are set to be re-procured for nearly all the West Midlands under a single large exercise, clinical commissioning group papers reveal. The current regional lead commissioner of the non-emergency medical helpline, Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG, has recommended a single exercise as the most cost effective option to the 21 other CCGs in the West Midlands.	HSJ

125	14 August	2015	Surrey merger 'provisionally cleared' by CMA	Press article	The proposed merger between Royal Surrey County Hospital Foundation Trust and Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals Foundation Trust has been provisionally cleared by the Competition and Markets Authority.	HSJ
126	15 August	2014	Serco to withdraw from UK clinical services market	Press article	Outsourcing giant Serco has announced plans to withdraw from the clinical health services market in the UK after making a multimillion pound loss on its NHS contracts. Serco's planned withdrawal could influence significantly how other private firms view the prospect of bidding for contracts involving patient facing services.	HSJ
127	18 August	2014	South Warwickshire agrees collaboration with George Eliot	Press article	A West Midlands trust has agreed a package of support for the financially troubled George Eliot Hospital Trust, months after its bid to take over the organisation was scuppered. The offer comes just months after the NHS Trust Development Authority ditched a procurement aimed at finding a provider to take over the ailing organisation.	HSJ
128	18 August	2014	Heart of England prepares for reconfiguration consultation	Press article	Heart of England Foundation Trust will consult on controversial proposals to reshape surgical services across its three main hospitals.	HSJ
129	18 August	2014	Revealed: All new GP contracts will be thrown open to private providers	Press article	All new GP contracts will be opened up to bids from the private sector by NHS England.	HSJ
130	22 August	2014	CCGs to retender out of hours contract after legal row	Press article	Four clinical commissioning groups in north east England have scrapped a near complete procurement process for their GP out of hours services after a legal challenge by one of the bidders. The challenge came from Northern Doctors Urgent Care, a social enterprise and the incumbent service provider, after it was named as the recommended bidder for just one of the three lots into which the work had been split. Under the settlement the social enterprise will remain in charge of the service until new arrangements are set up.	HSJ

131	28 August	2014	Circle's Hinchingsbrooke contract losses approach £5m limit	Press article	The losses built up by Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust in its first two years under private management are just £150,000 short of the £5m ceiling at which the contract could be terminated. Circle said it ended 2013-14 with a higher than expected deficit of £1.3m because of unanticipated contractual deductions imposed by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group.	HSJ
132	8 September	2014	Updated: Bupa joint venture wins £235m NHS contract	Press article	A £235m contract to provide NHS musculoskeletal services for West Sussex has been awarded to a joint venture between health insurance company Bupa and a community services social enterprise.	HSJ
133	12 September	2014	NHS healthcare providers: working with choice and competition	Guidance	This guidance describes the powers Monitor shares with the Competition and Markets Authority and explains how it will use them in accordance with competition law and how Monitor applies these licence conditions in individual cases. It also, informs patients, healthcare providers, commissioners, patient groups and other interested parties of how Monitor approaches its powers to make market investigation references under Part 4 of the Enterprise Act 2002.	Monitor
134	12 September	2014	Monitor to 'help FT become an integrated care organisation'	Press article	Health sector regulator Monitor has claimed it will for the first time attempt to help a foundation trust hospital become a full integrated care organisation. The regulator announced it would send a team of management consultants to Tameside Hospital Foundation Trust to consider whether and how such a shift could take place.	HSJ
135	12 September	2014	Commissioners issue warning over North West London merger	Press article	Commissioners from Ealing, Brent and Harrow have raised concerns that an imminently expected merger between Ealing Hospital Trust and North West London Hospitals Trust will not produce an organisation financially strong enough to attain foundation status.	HSJ
136	September	2014	Investigation into the commissioning of elective services in Blackpool and Fylde &	Investigation	The undertakings address problems relating to patient choice that were identified through investigation into the commissioning of elective services in the Fylde Coast area on 25 September 2014.	Monitor

			Wyre: Remedies consultation			
137	September	2014	Application of the Competition Act 1998 in the healthcare sector: guidance for providers	Guidance	The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Health and Social Care Act) gives Monitor concurrent (shared) powers with the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) to enforce provisions of the Competition Act 1998 (CA98) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) in relation to the provision of healthcare services in England. These laws are referred to as competition law in this document and the guidance explains how Monitor will use these powers.	Monitor
138	September	2014	Monitor's approach to market investigation references: guidance for providers	Guidance	The aim of this guidance is to inform patients, healthcare providers, commissioners, patient groups and other interested parties of how Monitor approach their powers to make market investigation references under Part 4 of the Enterprise Act 2002 (EA02). It also provides an overview of changes made by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 (ERRA13) to the way market investigation references and market studies are conducted.	Monitor
139	26 September	2014	First foundation trust takeover approved	Press article	Frimley Park Foundation Trust's takeover of neighbouring Heatherwood and Wexham Park has been signed off by Monitor. It was also announced today that Frimley Park has become the first trust to be rated outstanding by the Care Quality Commission. The new trust will be called Frimley Health Foundation Trust, and will come into being on 1 October.	HSJ
140	26 September	2014	Exclusive: CQC flags serious concerns about privately run Hinchingsbrooke Hospital	Press article	HSJ reveals the Care Quality Commission has raised serious concerns about care quality, management and culture at the UK's only privately run NHS hospital. They were raised in a letter sent by the regulator to the trust this week.	HSJ
141	29 September	2014	Bennett: Monitor 'struggling' to get message across on competition	Press article	The article claims that Monitor is struggling to combat influential commentators' claims that competition rules hamper essential service changes in the NHS.	HSJ

142	30 September	2014	Leading trust closes doors to 'out of area' referrals	Press article	A leading teaching hospital has been accused of breaking the rules around patient choice by closing its doors to routine referrals for patients outside its area. University Hospitals Birmingham Foundation Trust chief executive Dame Julie Moore has written to GPs and commissioners across the West Midlands, informing them the trust will not accept new GP referrals for secondary care work that could be done by neighbouring providers.	HSJ
143	1 October	2014	CCG appoints NHS-led consortium for £800m flagship contract	Press article	Commissioners have selected a consortium led by NHS providers as preferred bidder for a pioneering £800m contract to deliver older people's services in Cambridgeshire. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group has awarded the Uniting Care Partnership, which comprises Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust and Cambridge University Hospitals Foundation Trust, as its preferred option to be the lead provider under the new contract, which goes live in April 2015.	HSJ
144	2 October	2014	Exclusive: Hinchingsbrooke threatened with enforcement action by CQC	Press article	The Care Quality Commission warned Britain's only privately run NHS hospital that it could take enforcement action after its inspectors raised serious concerns about care quality, management and culture.	HSJ
145	6 October	2014	Monitor rules against Spire block contract complaint	Press article	Health sector regulator Monitor has not upheld a complaint from Spire Healthcare that Lancashire commissioners were directing patients away from one of its Spire Fylde Coast Hospital. Last year, Spire complained to Monitor that the facility had seen a "considerable decrease" in NHS referrals since Blackpool CCG and Fylde & Wyre CCG signed a block contract with a foundation trust. While Monitor did not find Spire's complaint to be true, it did acknowledge that "commissioners in the area were not making sure patients were offered a choice of hospital for routine surgery".	HSJ
146	7 October	2014	Exclusive: NHS spent £1.8m on abandoned George Eliot competition	Press article	HSJ reveals that the NHS spent £1.78m on an abandoned procurement to find an organisation to take over George Eliot Hospital Trust. George Eliot's search for an organisation to take it over began in August 2011, when its board decided it had no future as an independent entity.	HSJ

147	9 October	2014	Croydon CCG creates £1.7bn plan for health and social care services	Press article	Croydon Clinical Commissioning Group has joined forces with its local authority to create a £1.7bn plan to change the way health and social care services for over 65-year-olds are commissioned. Final approval was agreed at Croydon CCG's board meeting on Tuesday and the CCG and council, along with partners in the local health sector, will now explore an outcomes based capitation payment model for the contract.	HSJ
148	10 October	2014	Oxfordshire mental health contract will not go to tender	Press article	Oxford Health Foundation Trust will be joined in the consortium by the charity Mind and four other organisations if it wins the outcomes based contract, which could be worth £135m over three years. The consortium is highly likely to secure the deal after its lead member was named the "most capable provider" by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, which designed the contract alongside the trust.	HSJ
149	14 October	2014	Only one bidder in the running for Weston	Press article	Only one organisation has submitted a bid to take over England's smallest acute hospital.	HSJ
150	14 October	2014	How to navigate a competition review to get trust merger approval	Press article	Trusts need to provide evidence to the Competition and Markets Authority when merger and acquisitions are being considered.	HSJ
151	15 October	2014	Croydon drafting £1.7bn older people contract	Press article	An integrated health and social care contract for over 65s will have been approved by Croydon clinical commissioning group (CCG) and the local council.	HSJ
152	17 October	2014	Liverpool reconfiguration plans unveiled	Press article	The prospect of further centralising cancer services at the Royal is outlined in a prospectus for the Healthy Liverpool programme, approved this week by Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group.	HSJ
153	21 October	2014	Care UK surgery growth 'slower' than expected	Press article	A prominent private provider of elective surgery to the NHS has seen a slower than expected growth in demand for its services, despite the government's £250m drive to clear waiting lists. The firm's offer to help run NHS hospitals' in house surgery services comes after its bid to run George Eliot Hospital Trust as a franchise was derailed in March when the trust abandoned its procurement process.	HSJ

154	23 October	2014	Labour 'still plans Health Act repeal'	Press article	The NHS Five Year Forward View, document - published today by NHS England, Monitor and the other national NHS bodies - made no reference to competition or private providers. It is understood that competition is not an important focus of the senior national leaders' vision for service development.	HSJ
155	23 October	2014	'New care models' to cover half of England	Press article	More than half of England should be covered by new models of providing care, such as hospitals running GP practices and elsewhere GP groups taking over hospitals, under a major shift proposed in The NHS Five Year Forward View.	HSJ
156	23 October	2014	Health economies to face 'special measures' style regime	Press article	Whole health economies could face intervention for poor performance under a new approach proposed by the NHS national bodies. It could potentially include a special measures approach to areas with serious problems.	HSJ
157	27 October	2014	Virgin clinic probed over 'large number' of waiting time breaches	Press article	The probe of the Jarvis Breast Centre, Surrey is being carried out jointly by the private provider and North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group after 35 patients were not tested within two weeks of their GP referrals during April and July.	HSJ
158	28 October	2014	Children's heart surgery review 'put centres in competition with each other'	Press article	The controversial review of children's heart surgery at hospitals in Leeds and Newcastle pitched them into an acrimonious competition, damaging both patients' parents and practitioners' trust. This is the conclusion of one of two reports by consultancy Verita, released this week into paediatric cardiac surgery services at Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust.	HSJ
159	28 October	2014	Birmingham health leaders back forward view care models	Press article	The Vitality Partnership, a large provider of GP services across the city, plans to develop an integrated care organisation within a year.	HSJ
160	4 November	2014	CCGs permitted to ditch QOF and national GP contract	Pres article	Clinical commissioning groups will be free to allow GP practices to move off the national GP pay for performance framework and to create new contract arrangements, under NHS England's plans for co-commissioning.	HSJ

161	4 November	2014	Controversial MSK contract award to be checked	Press article	A controversial £235m musculoskeletal contract awarded to private provider Bupa as part of a joint venture is to be independently scrutinised following concerns from Western Sussex Hospitals Foundation Trust.	HSJ
162	4 November	2014	NHS England to award ten-year £100 per patient APMS contract	Press article	An NHS England area team is looking to award a ten year APMS contract, valued at £100 per weighted patient, despite local GP leaders' concerns. The Kent local area team has put an invitation to tender out for the contract for the Martello Health Centre. Kent LMC has warned the local area team that such a contract could give the practice an unfair advantage over neighbouring practices in the area, and no other practice receives this level of funding.	Pulse
163	5 November	2014	Revealed: Bidders for £1.2bn cancer and end of life care contracts	Press article	The NHS and independent sector organisations which have reached the next stage of bidding for two huge contracts to run cancer and end of life care services in Staffordshire have been revealed. The organisations will now be asked to submit outline bids. Both contracts are expected to be awarded in summer next year.	HSJ
164	7 November	2014	Devon presses ahead with procurement plans	Press article	A South West clinical commissioning group has agreed to award community services contracts worth more than £90m without going out to tender.	HSJ
165	11 November	2014	Three more trusts impose out of area referral restrictions	Press article	Three further trusts have imposed controversial curbs on patient access to services by restricting referrals from outside of their catchment areas. Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals Trust, Oxford University Hospitals Trust and Salford Royal Foundation Trust have all blocked some referrals as they sought to throttle demand over the past year.	HSJ
166	17 November	2014	Staffordshire CCG to hand £280m contract to private sector	Press article	Two private firms have been shortlisted for a £280m 'prime provider' contract in East Staffordshire in a competition bid that has seen all NHS bidders squeezed out of the race: Virgin Care and Optum - part of United Health - will now work with the East Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group to design the outcomes for the Improving Lives Programme. The winning bidder is due to be picked in 2015 with a view to begin the revamped service in 2016.	HSJ

167	19 November	2014	Exclusive: Multinational arms firm among those interested in £1bn NHS tender	Press article	HSJ has learned that Multinational companies including G4S and arms manufacturer Lockheed Martin are among those that have expressed interest in a £1bn contract to run GP support services outsourced by NHS England.	HSJ
168	21 November	2014	Yorkshire CCGs issue tender for £285m 'prime provider' contract	Press article	Two Yorkshire clinical commissioning groups have issued a tender for a prime provider community services contract worth nearly £285m. Greater Huddersfield and North Kirklees CCGs yesterday issued the tender for the seven year contract. The contract is expected to be awarded in May 2015 and go live in October. They will award either a single contract covering either both CCGs or two separate contracts based on the most economically advantageous tender.	HSJ
169	24 November	2014	Manchester redesigns leave staff 'confused' and 'fatigued'	Press article	A succession of service redesigns across Greater Manchester has left staff fatigued and confused, according to the chief executive of one foundation trust. Ann Barnes, chief executive of Stockport FT, said the latest reconfiguration, Healthier Together, had also pitched trusts across the conurbation into direct competition while those leading the redesign endorsed a collaborative and partnership approach.	HSJ
170	28 November	2014	East Cheshire wins two contracts	Press article	A financially strained North West trust has netted itself two contracts worth more than £2m. According to its October board papers, East Cheshire Trust was successful in two tenders to provide sexual health and age related macular degeneration services. With the trust forecasting a deficit of £6.6m this year, the contract wins are a positive development for the small district general hospital.	HSJ
171	1 December	2014	International arms firm drops interest in £1bn GP support services contract	Press article	Weapons manufacturer Lockheed Martin has said it will not be bidding for a £1 billion contract to run GP support services, despite attending an earlier meeting with interested private sector partners. The winning bidder will take on responsibility for administering payments to primary care suppliers, managing the transfer of medical records and countering fraud, the tender also states they will have to operate a transformation plan to enhance service quality and value for money.	Pulse

172	5 December	2014	Dalton's plans to revitalise provider sector unveiled	Press article	The government commissioned Dalton review, published this morning, outlines a series of organisational forms that it says have the potential for wider adoption across NHS providers. New organisational responses will be needed to remove variation in standards across NHS providers, Sir David Dalton's review led by Salford Royal Foundation Trust. These include hospital chains, Hinchingsbrooke style management franchises, Moorfields style service level chains, federations, joint ventures and integrated care organisations.	HSJ
173	8 December	2014	Exclusive: Monitor urged to block 'anti-competitive' CCG	Press article	Lawyers have urged Monitor to block a commissioner's plan to allow a private company to run an NHS urgent care centre in Shropshire. A letter by law firm Leigh Day, sent on behalf of a campaign group Shropshire Defend our NHS, claims Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group has breached Health Act competition laws by allowing private company Malling Health to provide the new service at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.	HSJ
174	9 December	2014	NHS England chief defines 'multispecialty community providers'	Press article	The NHS England chief executive has set out nine requirements that define a 'multispecialty community provider', one of the key care models in his vision for the future of the NHS.	HSJ
175	16 December	2014	Service hit by staff 'exodus' after CCG transfers contract to Circle	Press article	One of the biggest teaching trusts in England, Nottingham University Hospitals Trust, has confirmed it will cease to provide acute adult dermatology services – including emergency services – from February next year, due to a lack of staff. The workforce crisis comes after Nottinghamshire commissioners awarded Circle a contract that made it the main provider of dermatology services across Nottingham University Hospitals Trust and Circle's Nottingham NHS Treatment Centre. Under the new contract, most of the consultants faced moving to Circle under the transfer of undertakings protection of employment regulations, known as TUPE, but were reluctant to transfer out of the NHS.	HSJ
176	17 December	2014	Updated: NHS England to fund 'significant	Press article	In a paper going to the national body's board meeting today, NHS England chief executive Simon Stevens said the private sector work would be	HSJ

			volume' of private sector care		purchased with unspent funds from the £250m released by the government earlier this year to clear NHS backlogs. The money is expected to fund tens of thousands of procedures.	
177	19 December	2014	Planning Guidance: NHS England sets out next steps for realising forward view	Live report: Coverage of planning guidance	Planning guidance for the NHS in 2015-16, published this afternoon, reveals NHS England wants to set up a cohort of health economies that can develop prototypes of new care models such as primary and acute care systems and multispeciality community providers.	HSJ
178	19 December	2014	CMA clears NHS hospitals merger	Press release	The CMA today cleared the proposed merger of Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust and West Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust. Both hospitals provide a wide range of NHS services to patients in north-west London.	Monitor
179	9 January	2015	Updated: Circle to withdraw from Hinchingsbrooke contract	Press report	Circle Partnership has announced plans to pull out of its 10 year contract to run Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust, the UK's only privately managed NHS district general hospital. The announcement came ahead of a "quality summit" on the findings of a long awaited Care Quality Commission report on its inspection of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, which the regulator has confirmed was taking place today.	HSJ
180	9 January	2015	Exclusive: Lawyers could return to court over NHS England primary care decisions	Press article	Lawyers have threatened to take NHS England back to court if it cannot show it is taking steps to involve patients in primary care commissioning decisions.	HSJ
181	12 January	2015	Cardiology to be merged across Northamptonshire hospitals	Press article	Corby Clinical Commissioning Group has set out its intention to commission a single cardiology service across Northampton General Hospital Trust and Kettering General Hospital Foundation Trust. The major reconfiguration plan comes after an internal review was carried out examining cardiology services across both hospital trusts.	HSJ

182	13 January	2015	CCG to extend community provider contract	Press article	Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group is to extend the contract of its community services provider by a year, with it now ending in March 2017. The move comes in order to give the region's health leaders time to carry out an engagement exercise with local stakeholders ahead of a new contract being signed in April 2017.	HSJ
183	14 January	2015	Exclusive: Bidders shortlisted for £1bn primary care support contract	Press article	Three bidders: Capgemini, a global consultancy and outsourcing firm, with South East Commissioning Support Unit; Capita with Anglian Community Enterprise (a social enterprise providing community services in north east Essex); and Equiniti, which specialises in finance and administration, have been shortlisted for a £1bn, 10 year contract to provide critical primary care support services, NHS England has confirmed. The tender is one of largest single outsourcing deals ever proposed in the NHS.	HSJ
184	14 January	2015	Guidance to help patients receive more joined-up care	Guidance	This is the first time the regulator has produced guidance to help providers comply with the integrated care condition of the NHS provider licence. The licence is Monitor's main tool for regulating NHS providers and contains a specific condition requiring providers not to block the delivery of integrated care when it can benefit patients.	Monitor
185	15 January	2015	Peterborough and Stamford franchise decision delayed	Press article	A hospital chief executive has confirmed that the decision to have his trust taken over by a Hinchingsbrooke style private management franchise will be deferred until after the general election. The organisation was ordered to run a procurement exercise by Monitor in September 2013 and a private management franchise was considered to be one of the possible outcomes.	HSJ
186	15 January	2015	Community providers gear up to lead on new care models	Press article	Community service providers are positioning themselves to lead efforts to establish the new integrated models of care recommended in the NHS Five Year Forward View.	HSJ
187	16 January	2015	Single board to share risk across Cambridgeshire health economy	Press article	Providers and commissioners across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have created a joint board for strategic planning which they hope will ultimately share financial risk across the health economy. The organisations have formed a 'system transformation board' through which they intend to submit an expression of interest to NHS England to develop a new integrated model of care.	HSJ

188	19 January	2015	NHS consortium challenges NHS England £80m contract decision	Press article	University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust, Wirral based Clatterbridge Cancer Centre Foundation Trust and the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust had bid together last year to run PET CT scans across Staffordshire, Cheshire, Shropshire and Lancashire. However, the contract, which would cover around 5 million patients, was awarded to independent company Alliance Medical just before Christmas. The consortium confirmed it has lodged a formal challenge to the procurement decision.	HSJ
189	20 January	2015	Circle to challenge 'inadequate' Hinchingsbrooke rating	Press article	Circle is to challenge the 'inadequate' rating Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust was given by the Care Quality Commission.	HSJ
190	20 January	2015	Final decision on £1bn NHS England contract will be 'after general election'	Press article	NHS England has delayed making a decision on a £1bn awarding the contract for primary care support services until after the general election in May.	HSJ
191	21 January	2015	CQC rejects accusations of Hinchingsbrooke bias	Press article	The leaders of the Care Quality Commission team that rated Hinchingsbrooke Health Care Trust 'inadequate' today issued a strong rejection of claims that their inspection was biased.	HSJ
192	21 January	2015	Notice of initiation of investigation: Investigation into the commissioning of complex adult community services in East Devon (Case reference: CCD 01/15)	Initiation of Investigation	Monitor has decided to initiate an investigation into the commissioning of community services in Devon by Northern, Eastern and Western Devon CCG. This case raises interesting issues about how best to deliver integrated care to patients. The health sector regulator stepped in after receiving a complaint from Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust, a provider of acute and community services including district nursing and community matrons. The regulator is to investigate the CCG's decision to award contract without tender following trust complaint. The contract is worth more than £100m over 3 years.	Monitor

193	23 January	2015	Monitor angers CCGs with advice on community services	Press Article	Commissioners have voiced concern that their efforts to integrate services will be hampered by 'enforced competition' after Monitor released a report warning them against simply rolling over existing community services contracts. The regulator's report urged clinical commissioning groups to use the end of current contracts – anticipated for many services in 2015-16 – as an opportunity to introduce new care models recommended in the NHS Five Year Forward View.	HSJ
194	26 January	2015	Bupa and CSH Surrey pull out of £235m MSK contract	Press Article	Private provider Bupa and social enterprise CSH Surrey have pulled out of a £235m contract to run musculoskeletal services in West Sussex. The joint venture said that it made the decision because an impact assessment concluded that Western Sussex Hospitals Foundation Trust's financial position would be harmed if it lost MSK services.	HSJ
195	28 January	2015	Bath FT's takeover of specialist trust given green light	Press article	Royal United Hospitals Bath Foundation Trust has taken over Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases FT after its proposal was approved by Monitor. Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases FT jointly applied with the Bath trust for the takeover. It was expecting to deliver a deficit of £1.9m by the end of the current financial year.	HSJ
196	30 January	2015	Hinchingbrooke £7.2m in the red	Press Article	Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust posted a £7.2m deficit for the first eight months of the 2014-15 financial year, according to figures published last week which give the fullest indication to date of the hospital's financial problems.	HSJ
197	30 January	2015	Special measures trust looking for two new 'buddies'	Press article	Sherwood Forest Hospitals Foundation Trust is in talks to enter into a formal 'buddying' arrangement with Royal United Hospitals Bath FT, following the end of its relationship with Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals FT.	HSJ
198	5 February	2015	Judicial review launched over integrated care contract award	Press article	A south London clinical commissioning group's attempt to contract a new integrated GP out of hours and urgent care service has been left in limbo after a losing bidder initiated judicial review proceedings against the decision. Alongside the judicial review, Grabadoc Healthcare Society has also begun separate proceedings against Greenwich CCG under Public Contracts Regulations 2006 legislation.	HSJ

199	5 February	2015	NHS England launches new framework for commissioning support services	Press article	The framework has been developed with local clinical commissioners who asked for a simpler and less costly process for choosing the support they need. In February 2014, NHS England invited organisations to come forward who were capable of bringing together end to end support services, such as back office finance and HR, GP IT services, contracting, engagement and business intelligence. The Invitation to Tender stage concluded last month.	HSJ
200	6 February	2015	Monopoly' fears over £350m scans contract	Press article	The decision to award a 10 year contract covering more than half of England's PET-CT imaging service to Alliance Medical has created a 'monopoly' that could damage NHS interests.	HSJ
201	9 February	2015	Capita in NHS staff data breach	Press article	HSJ reveals that the outsourcing firm Capita has been responsible for a breach of NHS employees' personal data in Liverpool. The company, which was providing human resources services to nine trusts in Liverpool until last year, mistakenly sent details of staff at other Merseyside trusts to Liverpool Community Health Trust's HR department.	HSJ
202	13 February	2015	Social enterprises win Cornwall out of hours contract	Press article	A social enterprise consortium including: Devon Doctors, a GP led social enterprise, and Kernow Health, a community interest company run by member practices, has been chosen by Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group to replace Serco as the provider of out of hours GP services across Cornwall. The contract, worth £8m a year, will cover an initial two and a half year period with an option to extend for another two and a half years.	HSJ
203	13 February	2015	Norfolk and Suffolk FT withdraws from mutuals project	Press article	Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust has today announced its withdrawal from the government's Mutuals in Health pathfinder project. It is the second Norfolk trust to withdraw from the Mutuals project recently.	HSJ
204	17 February	2015	GP 'super-practice' care model will 'break commissioning barriers'	Press article	Whitstable Medical Practice in Kent, which has over 34,600 registered patients, submitted an application with two other local practices to become one NHS England's vanguard sites. The practices together employ 35 GPs and have a list of over 53,000 patients.	HSJ
205	17 February	2015	Sheffield organisations pitch £260m 'vanguard' care plan	Press article	Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group and Sheffield City Council have agreed to pool £260m to redesign and commission services together in	HSJ

					their application to become a vanguard site for the new models of care outlined in the NHS Five Year Forward View.	
206	18 February	2015	'Unique' consortium wins Birmingham mental health contract	Press article	A consortium involving public, private and voluntary sector providers has been appointed preferred bidder for a £124m contract to deliver joined up mental health services to children, adolescents and young adults in Birmingham. Forward Thinking Birmingham, a consortium that includes Priory Group and Beacon UK, has been named preferred bidder for a £124 million mental health contract. Under the terms of the deal, agreed with Birmingham South Central Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the consortium will have to deliver services for children, adolescents and adults under 25 over five years.	HSJ
207	18 February	2015	Monitor to road test payment systems for new care models	Press article	Monitor is to begin 'co-designing' and testing models for capitation based payment systems to help in the commissioning of new models for integrated care.	HSJ
208	19 February	2015	Calderdale reconfiguration rejected in council report	Press article	There is not convincing evidence that proposals to reconfigure services hospitals services in Calderdale and Greater Huddersfield would produce better health outcomes for our population or represent good value for money' a council commissioned report has found.	HSJ
209	19 February	2015	CCG 'rewinds' tender process after legal threat	Press article	Greenwich CCG has decided to retender its integrated urgent care and out of hours services contract after it was threatened with a legal challenge from an unsuccessful bidder.	HSJ
210	20 February	2015	Trust and GPs bid to create primary care joint venture	Press article	A group of Hampshire GPs has teamed up with the country's largest mental health and community services trust in a bid to create an integrated primary care centre. If the bid, worth approximately £1m, is successful then the centre will provide routine and urgent care at Lymington New Forest Hospital, which is run by Southern Health.	HSJ
211	23 February	2015	CCG accused of 'lack of candour' over outsourced community service	Press article	Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has been accused of misleading GPs and the public over whether patients in a community based dermatology service run by a private healthcare provider are always seen by specialist consultants.	HSJ

212	25 February	2015	Revealed: Details of £6bn Manchester health devolution plan	Press article	A draft memorandum of understanding between NHS England and the conurbation's local authorities and clinical commissioning groups sets out plans to put the Greater Manchester Strategic Health and Social Care Partnership Board on a statutory footing by the end of 2015-16.	HSJ
213	2 March	2015	Two more trusts reach foundation status	Press article	Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust and Kent Community Health Trust have been granted foundation trust status by Monitor.	HSJ
214	2 March	2015	NEW Devon accused of conflict of interest in £100m contract award	Press article	A community services provider has accused the country's largest clinical commissioning group of a conflict of interest in its decision to award a £100m contract without a tender.	HSJ
215	5 March	2015	Monitor could be asked to examine £350m contract	Press article	A decision by NHS England to hand more than half of the country's PET-CT imaging services to one company could be the subject of a formal complaint to market regulator Monitor.	HSJ
216	5 March	2015	Choice works for NHS patients with hearing loss	Report Article	A review by Monitor found that patients benefit from improved access and greater control over their care in areas where choice is offered.	Monitor
217	6 March	2015	Solent to sue Hampshire council over tender award	Press article	Solent Trust is set to sue Hampshire County Council after the local authority awarded a £41.3m contract for adult substance misuse services to another provider.	HSJ
218	10 March	2015	NHS England reveals new care model 'vanguard'	Press article	NHS England has selected 29 'vanguard' areas to develop new models of integrated services which can be replicated across the country. The sites include some of the most challenged health economies in England and well established pioneers of joined up care.	HSJ
219	11 March	2015	CCG invites bids for £100m 'health campus' provider	Press article	Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group has invited organisations to bid to provide major services at a proposed health and wellbeing campus to serve Shepton Mallet and surrounding villages.	HSJ
220	11 March	2015	Circle drops challenge to 'inadequate' Hinchingbrooke rating	Press article	The Cambridgeshire district general hospital, which is the only privately operated trust in the country, was rated 'inadequate' by the regulator in	HSJ

					January in relation to whether it was caring, safe and well led. It has been put into special measures.	
221	11 March	2015	London mental health trust wins contracts in Bedfordshire and Luton	Press article	East London Foundation Trust has been chosen by two clinical commissioning groups to deliver mental health services contracts worth £60m in Bedfordshire and Luton.	HSJ
222	12 March	2015	Exclusive: £188m of bailouts switched to loans in DH clampdown	Press article	A group of foundation trusts that received £188m in Department of Health bailouts this year has been told the funding will now be switched to loans, as part of a push for financially distressed organisations to manage their finances better.	HSJ
223	12 March	2015	Exclusive: FT to receive £328m as part of takeover of neighbour	Press article	The Department of Health has agreed a package of support and capital payments totalling £327.7m with Frimley Park Hospital Foundation Trust as part of its takeover of another trust.	HSJ
224	17 March	2015	Manchester stroke centralisation could 'save 50 lives a year'	Press article	The majority of stroke patients in Greater Manchester will be treated at specialist hospitals, under plans to increase the centralisation of services which it is hoped could save 50 lives a year.	HSJ
225	18 March	2015	King's Fund disputes Labour plan to exempt NHS from EU rules	Press article	The NHS is currently subject to EU procurement law, and a briefing paper published by the think tank, the Kings Fund, today says the EU will not easily allow the NHS an exemption, as proposed by Labour.	HSJ
226	19 March	2015	Community hospitals review underway as CCG forecasts £11m deficit	Press article	Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Group is undertaking a review into the future of its four community hospitals. The review comes as the CCG reported a forecast deficit of £10.7m by the end of the year, having expected to deliver a £3.3m surplus at the start of 2014-15. The community hospitals have been a contributing factor to the CCG's large deficit, according to figures in its February finance report.	HSJ
227	19 March	2015	Hinchingbrooke to return to NHS management next month	Press article	The UK's only privately-run NHS hospital will be handed back to the health service next month, the NHS Trust Development Authority has confirmed. Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust, which was placed in special measures in January, is to return to traditional NHS trust legal and governance	HSJ

					arrangements from 1 April, according to a paper discussed at the TDA's board meeting on 19 March.	
228	20 March	2015	Regulator agrees plans to improve patient choice in the north west of England	Press article	Monitor has agreed plans to improve how a choice of hospital care is offered to thousands of patients in parts of Lancashire.	HSJ
229	23 March	2015	Cornwall merger plan halted due to costs	Press article	Plans to merge two Cornwall providers have been put on hold after a study of the proposals for further joint working said a merger would not be feasible in the short term.	HSJ
230	23 March	2015	Dunn: FT structure can be used to create new care models	Press article	A key architect of the foundation trust legal structure has said the sector's existing governance models can be used to run the new models of care set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View.	HSJ
231	25 March	2015	What happened when our CCG awarded a £6m contract to Virgin Care	Report article	Dr Vicky Pledwell, GP and healthcare commissioning lead for Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG explains their approach to the awarding of a contract for community and urgent care services in Whitby to Virgin Care as a competitive dialogue involving a series of detailed (four-hour) face-to-face conversations with each of the potential providers.	Inside Commissioning
232	25 March	2015	Exclusive: Vanguard areas call for tender moratorium	Press article	NHS England and Monitor are facing calls to exempt vanguard areas from requirements to tender services, amid fears that procurement processes could undermine efforts to establish integrated primary, community and acute care models. The calls from providers in the vanguard relate specifically to community services, many of which are on contracts due to expire at the end of 2015-16.	HSJ
233	26 March	2015	Revealed: Virgin handed £280m Staffordshire contract	Press article	Virgin Care has been awarded a £280m, seven-year prime provider contract to manage services in East Staffordshire. It beat competition from the only other shortlisted bidder, Optum, to win the contract to coordinate services for frail elderly patients, those with long term conditions and intermediate care.	HSJ

234	27 March	2015	Integrated care licence condition: guidance for providers of NHS-funded services	Statutory guidance	This guidance is designed to help licensees and NHS trusts understand what is expected of them in relation to the integrated care licence condition and where Monitor may take action.	Monitor
235	27 March	2015	Leading trusts defy NHS England over 'out of area' referrals	Press article	Teaching hospitals are continuing to refuse 'out of area' referrals in defiance of new rules from NHS England. Some trusts are planning to challenge the measure on patient safety grounds. Trusts were turning away patients from beyond their immediate catchment areas for routine care because they were struggling to meet service demand and hit access targets.	HSJ
236	2 April	2015	CCG extends £30m community services contract	Press article	Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group has extended its contract for community services with Bromley Healthcare by one extra year to end in March 2017. The contract with the social enterprise was originally for five years, ending on 31 March 2016.	HSJ
237	7 April	2015	City's social workers transfer to healthcare provider	Press article	Plymouth City Council has pooled its entire social care budget with the local NHS and transferred all of its adult social care workforce to a community health provider in a drive to develop integrated services. The council and the Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group started jointly commissioning health and wellbeing services from a £460m pot last week. Statutory responsibility for the services will remain with the council	HSJ
238	8 April	2015	Former GP principal stopped from saving practice due to 'procurement laws'	Press article	Deanhill Surgery in East Sheen shut its doors on 31 March despite a campaign from patients and staff in which a former partner offered to save the practice by running it himself.	HSJ
239	8 April	2015	Exclusive: 'Trusts with no future' list to stay secret until after election	Press article	National officials are keeping confidential until after the general election potentially controversial information showing which NHS trusts are unlikely to have a future as independent organisations.	HSJ

240	9 April	2015	Exclusive: District general hospital gives up standalone FT bid	Press article	Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust has become the latest organisation to abandon plans to become a standalone foundation trust.	HSJ
241	10 April	2015	Exclusive: NHS owned pathology joint venture expects £4.5m loss	Press article	A pathology joint venture owned by six NHS trusts is forecasting a £4.5m deficit for its first year of operation. The pioneering Pathology Partnership project, launched last May and hosted at Cambridge University Hospital Foundation Trust, is the largest of its kind in England, serving NHS providers across Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Essex and Hertfordshire.	HSJ
242	17 April	2015	Mutual's contract extended to experiment with new care models	Press article	Commissioners have extended Bristol Community Health's contract to provide adult community services by two years, pushing the re-procurement of the services to 2019.	HSJ
243	21 April	2015	More CCGs tendering services due to fear over competition rules	Press article	More than 40 per cent of commissioners say their organisations are inviting competition for NHS services due solely to their concerns about controversial competition rules, an HSJ survey has found.	HSJ
244	23 April	2015	Peterborough rejects contract proposals from new commissioner	Press article	Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals Foundation Trust has still not agreed contractual arrangements with its new commissioner for older people's services, despite the NHS owned organisation taking charge of services this month.	HSJ
245	24 April	2015	Community service trust completes 1,600 staff transfer	Press article	Cambridgeshire Community Services Trust has completed the transfer of 45 per cent of its 3,540 staff to six other organisations after losing its role as provider of older people's services across the county. A report by chief executive Matthew Winn for the trust's April board meeting confirmed 1,600 staff had been transferred to other organisations under transfer of undertakings protection of employment regulations on 31 March.	HSJ
246	27 April	2015	Monitor readies itself to refer tariff row to CMA	Press article	Monitor's pricing team are readying themselves to be able to refer rejected tariff proposals for 2015-16 to the Competition and Markets Authority as soon as next month, should the regulator's board decide to do so.	HSJ

247	30 April	2015	Hinchingbrooke reports sharp deficit rise as Circle departs	Press article	Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust has forecast a £14m deficit for 2014-15 – nearly double the size of its deficit for the first eight months of the financial year.	
248	1 May	2015	Small hospital vanguard sites delayed again	Press article	Progress on an important strand of NHS England’s new care models vanguard project has stalled, meaning work on the ground will not begin until summer at the earliest.	HSJ
249	1 May	2015	Devon tenders £67m ‘integrated’ urgent care contract	Press article	Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group has invited organisations to tender for a £66.8m urgent care services contract, which includes out of hours GP services in the county. The CCG is encouraging groups of potential providers to bid together, as part of efforts to create more integrated urgent care provision throughout the region under the management of a lead accountable provider.	HSJ
250	5 May	2015	Care UK sells mental health arm	Press article	Private provider Care UK has sold off its NHS mental health services arm to Partnerships in Care, one of the country’s largest independent mental health providers. Care UK, which operates 20 NHS commissioned mental health services across England, will transfer its contracts to Partnerships in Care on 1 June for an undisclosed sum.	HSJ
251	12 May	2015	Tax barriers and staff opposition deter trusts from becoming mutuals	Press article	Trusts in the Mutuals in Health pathfinder scheme have concluded that legislation, tax regimes and a lack of staff support present major barriers to their becoming staff owned organisations. Most of the seven pathfinder trusts said VAT would pose a significant obstacle to mutualisation. NHS providers are exempt from paying the tax on contracted out services, but health providers that spin out from the NHS would need to pay unless there is a change in the law.	HSJ
252	13 May	2015	FT becomes ‘emergency caretaker’ of GP surgeries	Press article	An East Midlands foundation trust is to take over all GP services in three local surgeries under exceptional circumstances, its commissioners have said. Chesterfield Royal Hospital FT’s primary care branch, Royal Primary Care, will start to deliver services at three of the five surgeries currently run by Holywell Medical Group on Friday.	HSJ

253	13 May	2015	Expanding 'super-practice' wants GPs to work across secondary care	Press article	Corby based Lakeside Healthcare has already announced its intention to become the country's largest GP led primary care provider in the country, with an aim to establish a registered list of 300,000 patients. The company wants candidates to work beyond the primary care setting, employing GPs in hospitals, urgent care centres and ambulatory care and offering them above the national average pay for salaried GPs, according to a company job advert.	HSJ
254	14 May	2015	TDA urges trust to go 'further and faster' on reconfiguration	Press article	The NHS Trust Development Authority has challenged one of the largest teaching hospitals in the country, University Hospitals of Leicester Trust, to move 'further and faster' with reconfiguration plans designed to cut costs and improve care. It predicts they will need to borrow £129m to cover its deficit and ongoing capital programme for 2015-16	HSJ
255	15 May	2015	CCGs must buy external support services, NHS England says	Press article	NHS England has told clinical commissioning groups in the north to jointly go to market to procure vital support services. It has said CCGs will have to pay for stranded costs if they bring support services in house.	HSJ
256	18 May	2015	Care UK offloads learning disabilities services	Press article	Private provider Care UK has sold its learning disabilities services to Lifeways, an independent provider of specialist care. The deal, signed for an undisclosed amount, forms part of a company strategy to concentrate on the provision of primary and secondary NHS health services. Earlier this month the company sold its mental health arm to Partnerships in Care, one of England's largest independent mental health providers, as part of the service shake-up.	HSJ
257	19 May	2015	Three trusts to take over community services from Serco	Press article	Three NHS trusts have been named as the preferred bidders to take over community services in Suffolk from outsourcing giant Serco: West Suffolk Foundation Trust, Ipswich Hospital Trust and Norfolk Community Health and Care Trust will jointly run community services in the region from October, but the contract will be held by West Suffolk.	HSJ
258	19 May	2015	CCG and councils launch tender for 'troubled adults' service	Press article	A Hertfordshire clinical commissioning group and three councils are tendering for a Troubled Families style service for adults with 'complex and chaotic' needs, in partnership with the local police and housing associations.	Local Government Chronicle

259	19 May	2015	Cornish acute and mental health trusts propose merger	Press article	Cornwall's only mental health trust and its main acute provider have begun talks to merge the organisations.	HSJ
260	19 May	2015	Providers for £1.8bn elderly care contract named	Press article	Five providers -Croydon Health Services Trust; South London and Maudsley Foundation Trust; Croydon GPs Group, which aims to include all the GP practices in the borough; Age UK Croydon; and Croydon Council's adult social care -have been selected to deliver a £1.8bn, 10 year contract to improve older peoples' care in Croydon. They are expected to deliver around £178m worth of services a year through a "provider alliance" model. The CCG will contribute £139m and the council £39m a year.	HSJ
261	20 May	2015	Trust pilot to 'push boundaries' on road to staff ownership	Press article	University Hospitals of Leicester Trust, a major teaching hospital, is to hive off its orthopaedic services into an 'autonomous team' within the trust as part of a pilot designed to improve staff performance and outcomes.	HSJ
262	20 May	2015	Mental health trusts reveal 'centre of excellence' merger plans	Press article	Two mental health trusts in the North West, Calderstones Partnership FT and Mersey Care Trust, are in discussions over a potential merger.	HSJ
263	20 May	2015	Stevens launches hospital chains 'vanguard'	Press article	NHS England will test new ways of sustaining smaller hospitals, including chains running acute services, in its latest vanguard programme launched today by Simon Stevens.	HSJ
264	21 May	2015	GP sector sees 'boom' in large provider companies	Press article	There has been a boom in large scale GP provider organisations being set up in recent months. The increase has been attributed partly to national policy changes, including clinical commissioning groups taking on responsibility for primary care contracts, by CCG and GP leaders.	HSJ
265	22 May	2015	Updated: NHS provider sector reports £822m deficit	Press article	NHS providers have reported a deficit of £822m for 2014-15, with foundation trusts ending the year in the red for first time ever. <i>HSJ</i> analysis suggests that without bailouts the net deficit was closer to £1bn.	HSJ
266	26 May	2015	Pathology joint venture records growth but	Press article	A public-private pathology provider part owned by Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital and King's College Hospital increased its revenues last year, but a	HSJ

			restructuring hits profits		substantial restructure prompted by changes to tax rules resulted in a small drop in profits. The joint venture has posted multimillion pound profits for two years running, which was a robust upturn in fortunes after making substantial losses in its early years, including a £5.9m loss in 2011.	
267	3 June	2015	First three troubled areas to be put into 'success regime'	Press article	NHS England chief, Simon Stevens has confirmed the three areas to be the first put into a new whole health economy 'success regime': north Cumbria; Essex; and northern, eastern and western Devon. Services in these areas will need to redesign clinical models because the areas all have serious financial problems and some major care quality and performance issues.	HSJ
268	3 June	2015	Exclusive: Multimillion pound cancer contract consortium revealed	Press article	A private company led consortium including two NHS trusts is now the only remaining bidder for a 10 year, £687m cancer services contract in Staffordshire. The statement by the four CCGs and NHS England, due to be released this week, does not name the members of the consortium but a number of sources have confirmed that it will be led by private company Interserve Investments. University Hospital North Midlands and the Royal Wolverhampton trusts will be partners	HSJ
269	9 June	2015	Exclusive: King's Fund calls for merger of NHS and social care budgets	Press Article	There should be a single pooled budget for all health and social care services in every area by 2020 at the latest, according to a new report by the King's Fund.	HSJ
270	17 June	2015	NHS 111 procurement abandoned in West Midlands	Press article	The procurement of a new NHS 111 service to span 16 clinical commissioning groups in the West Midlands has been abandoned after no acceptable bids were put forward.	HSJ
271	17 June	2015	Royal Free considers joint venture with specialist trust	Press article	The Royal Free London Foundation Trust is considering a joint venture with a specialist orthopaedic hospital trust. A report submitted to the north London teaching hospital's most recent board meeting showed it was considering a memorandum of understanding with the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Trust.	HSJ

272	19 June	2015	Worcestershire shake-up gets green light amid A&E concerns	Press article	Reconfiguration of acute services in Worcestershire will go ahead after receiving the green light from the West Midlands Clinical Senate. However, it did not sign off on the detail of a planned downgrade of accident and emergency services at one of Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust's sites. The trust has been developing plans to reconfigure its services since 2012 because of concerns current arrangements are not financially or clinically sustainable.	HSJ
273	23 June	2015	Private firm gets £400m contract to run NHS administrative services in England	Article	Capita, one of the biggest outsourcing companies in the United Kingdom, has been announced as the "preferred provider" of a £400m contract to provide back-office administrative support services to the NHS in England. The contract is for primary care support services, including the management of medical records, prescription payments, and administrative support to GPs, dentists, opticians, and pharmacists.	BMJ
274	23 June	2015	Capita wins contract to support 'hub and spoke' pathology venture	Press article	Outsourcing company Capita has been awarded a contract to deliver a blood transfusion system as part of plans to create a centralised pathology service across Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. The contract award is part of the trusts' broader strategy to consolidate pathology services into a 'hub and spoke' model, with one central laboratory doing routine work alongside five specialist analysis sites.	HSJ
275	25 June	2015	Exclusive: Preferred bidder named for £285m 'prime provider' contract	Press article	A consortium bid led by social enterprise Locala has been selected as the preferred bidder for a 'prime provider' community services contract worth £285m. The bid also involves South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust, a local hospice and other third sector organisations. The contract includes services such as specialist community nursing.	HSJ
276	26 June	2015	Circle chief: 'Ground shifted beneath our feet' on Hinchingbrooke	Press article	The chief executive of Circle has said that a lack of flexibility in its contract to run Hinchingbrooke Health Care Trust was a major factor behind its early departure from the franchise deal.	HSJ
277	26 June	2015	Shared records take Manchester a step closer to integration	Press article	Integrated care records for 6,000 patients are now being shared between NHS and social care workers in Manchester. The shared records are intended to help new multidisciplinary teams working across three clinical commissioning group areas, as they aim to keep patients out of hospital.	HSJ

278	29 June	2015	Data lowdown: Sharp rise in CCGs using competition for LESs	Press article	Data obtained by Pulse shows that the proportion of commissioners using competition for GP services has risen this year. Around 22% of CCGs say they plan to put enhanced services out to full tender or AQP in 2015/16; a further 5% are considering using AQP in 2015/16. This compares with 19% of CCGs using competition for enhanced services, such as planned care and phlebotomy, in 2014/15 and 8% in 2013/14.	Pulse
279	29 June	2015	Robot wars in Lancashire as trusts compete to be specialist site	Press article	A hospital trust in Lancashire has ignored national guidance by spending £1.5m on a surgical robot, according to NHS England. East Lancashire Hospitals Trust bought and installed a Da Vinci robot at the Royal Blackburn Hospital earlier this month, which will be used by cancer surgeons to remove prostate glands. NHS England has pointed out the high costs of buying and maintaining the robots.	HSJ
280	30 June	2015	Revealed: Which CCGs are paying GP practices to form federation	Press article	A survey shows that a third of clinical commissioning groups with control of their primary care budgets plan to fund member GP practices to get them to form federations.	HSJ
281	2 July	2015	Exclusive: Social enterprise to pull out of Cornish community services	Press article	A social enterprise which provides community services across Cornwall and oversees the county's 14 community hospitals has said that it will not seek an extension to its current contract, which ends in March 2016. Peninsula Community Health has been providing community services across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly since 2011.	HSJ
282	2 July	2015	Fallout from Nottingham dermatology collapse hits nearby trust	Press article	Sherwood Forest Hospitals Foundation Trust has reported that the withdrawal of key consultant posts in paediatric dermatology at Nottingham has exacerbated its own difficulties in meeting waiting list targets. Nottingham was forced to drastically scale back its acute adult dermatology services earlier this year, following the departure of most of the service's consultants. The consultants had objected to commissioners' decision to transfer elective dermatology care to private provider Circle.	HSJ
283	6 July	2015	Foundation model faces 'challenges' - Monitor chief	Press article	The chief executive of Monitor said although the process of gaining FT status had often brought improvements for trusts, progress had then stalled in many cases because of the redesigning of services. This may be	HSJ

					problematic in terms of the increasing pressure from government to provide evidence that everything is being done to find efficiency savings.	
284	7 July	2015	Exclusive: Letters show how CCGs directed to up activity plans	Press article	Letters seen by HSJ reveal how NHS England ordered clinical commissioning groups to change their contracts with acute providers to reflect an assumption that hospital activity would grow this year.	HSJ
285	8 July	2015	Exclusive: All 111 and out of hours tenders suspended	Press article	NHS England has told commissioners to suspend all GP out of hours and NHS 111 procurements while it draws up new rules for creating 'functionally integrated' urgent care services.	HSJ
286	8 July	2015	CCGs confirm winner of £285m 'prime provider' contract	Press article	South West Yorkshire Community Partnership, local hospice and other third sector organisations have confirmed that Locala Community Partnerships has been named preferred bidder to be their lead provider for a £285m prime provider community services contract.	HSJ
287	9 July	2015	Interim provider chosen to deliver NHS 111 service	Press article	A 111 service in the West Midlands will be provided in the interim by an urgent care and GP out of hours provider, Vocare, to replace West Midlands Ambulance Service.	HSJ
288	10 July	2015	Trust to complain to Monitor over £285m contract award	Press article	Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust in Yorkshire is set to lodge a formal complaint with Monitor after a £285m contract was awarded to a rival group of bidders, Locala Community Partnerships.	HSJ
289	14 July	2015	Exclusive: Midlands trusts to create £1bn turnover alliance	Press article	Three West Midlands hospital trusts are to create an alliance - The Black Country Alliance - with a combined turnover of almost £1bn and a catchment population of more than 1 million, to make efficiency savings and improve clinical sustainability in the region north of Birmingham.	HSJ
290	15 July	2015	NHS providers explore taking over Cornish community services	Press article	NHS trusts in Cornwall are exploring whether they could provide a suitable home for over 20 community services. The discussions come after the county's current community services provider, Peninsula Community Health, announced earlier this month it would stop running the services at the end of its contract next March.	HSJ

291	16 July	2015	Updated: US corporation brought in to help improve five trusts	Press article	An American healthcare corporation- US non-profit firm Virginia Mason - is being brought in to support five trusts in improving quality and clinical engagement. Programme heavily focused on clinical engagement with management.	HSJ
292	16 July	2015	Monitor/TDA merged body to be called NHS Improvement	Press article	The combined provider regulator bringing together Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority will be called NHS Improvement, Jeremy Hunt announced this morning.	HSJ
293	17 July	2015	Social enterprise wins £240m community services contract	Press article	A social enterprise has been awarded a community services contract in Essex worth £240m. The seven year Care Closer to Home contract was given to Anglian Community Enterprise by North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group this week, following a formal procurement process.	HSJ
294	17 July	2015	Manchester shake-up planning to start before seven day GPs in place		Implementation work to create four 'specialist' sites for emergency surgery in Greater Manchester will begin before improvements to primary care are fully in place.	HSJ
295	21 July	2015	Updated: £579m drawdown to commissioning system	Press article	According to a finance paper to be presented at NHS England's board meeting on Thursday, the commissioning system plans to spend its total recurrent funding allocation of £100.8bn in 2015-16, topped up with a further £579m of prior year surplus drawdown.	HSJ
296	21 July	2015	DH accounts show NHS 'clearly in underlying deficit'	Press article	It is stated that, "The Department of Health underspent its revenue budget by just £1.2m in 2014-15 – a fraction of its £110bn budget". This is despite the DH's position against its expenditure limit being propped up by a £250m increase to the revenue budget from the Treasury, plus £640m being transferred from the capital budget.	HSJ
297	24 July	2015	First eight urgent and emergency care vanguards revealed	Press article	The first wave of urgent and emergency care vanguard sites has been revealed by NHS England. It comes as part of the commissioning body's new care models programme, as set out in the <i>Five Year Forward View</i> .	HSJ
298	24 July	2015	CCG property sales 'will fund new care models'	Press article	Every clinical commissioning group in England has been directed to evaluate estate within its area to work out how much capital funding can be released	HSJ

					by property sales. The money raised will be used to support new care models.	
299	28 July	2015	Trust calls for success regime to take over 'shambolic' procurement	Press article	Northern Devon Healthcare Trust calls for NHS England to take over a controversial community services procurement. The trust said Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group's approach to the procurement had been "shambolic". In its submission to Monitor, Northern Devon also made a claim that a cost improvement plan worth "several million pounds" would be put at risk if community services transfer to Royal Devon.	HSJ
300	29 July	2015	Controversial £175m Oxfordshire outcomes based contract delayed	Press article	A major outcomes based contract for adult mental health services in Oxfordshire, which was first mooted more than two years ago, has been delayed because the local provider and commissioner have still not agreed the scope of the deal. The contract is expected to be worth £35m a year for five years – £175m in total. It was proposed in spring 2013, and was originally intended to be signed last summer.	HSJ
301	30 July	2015	Case: Investigation into the commissioning of elective services in North East London	Notice of initiation of investigation	Monitor has decided to investigate the commissioning of elective care services in North East London by Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group, Havering Clinical Commissioning Group, Redbridge Clinical Commissioning Group and Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group (together the CCGs) and the proposed pricing arrangements for those services. This follows a complaint by Care UK Clinical Services Limited that the process carried out by the CCGs to select Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust to provide elective care services from the North East London Treatment Centre in Ilford was not consistent with the CCGs' regulatory obligations and that the national tariff was not complied with when agreeing prices for those services.	Monitor
302	30 July	2015	Exclusive: CCG plans handover to 'accountable care organisation'	Press article	A clinical commissioning group is proposing to hand its budget and nearly all its functions to a provider led 'accountable care organisation', in what could be a first in the NHS. Northumberland CCG would hand its budget and most functions to provider led ACO, which would be culmination of PACS project covering new emergency hospital and enhanced primary and	HSJ

					community services. It was one of the 29 national vanguard sites identified in March and is developing a primary and acute care system.	
303	31 July	2015	First wedge of £200m transformation funding allocated to vanguards	Press article	The first vanguard sites to receive transformation funding have been revealed this morning, as part of a wider package of support for sites working to establish new models of care.	HSJ
304	31 July	2015	Devolution Manchester leaders accept national regulation	Press article	Leaders of the Greater Manchester devolution project have accepted that national bodies such as Monitor will still be responsible for regulating NHS services in the region. However, Ian Williamson, interim chief officer for the project, said there will still need to be a new regulation model for the region, with input from local leaders.	HSJ
305	3 August	2015	Providers ordered to take tough new measures to cut deficits	Press article	In a letter sent this afternoon, NHS providers have been told to take a raft of emergency measures to try to reduce the huge deficit predicted by the sector this year.	HSJ
306	3 August	2015	Last Staffordshire trust pulls out of £690m cancer consortium	Press article	The main acute provider in Staffordshire has pulled out of a consortium bid to take on a £687m, 10 year prime provider contract for cancer services. The decision by University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust means there is no NHS trust from Staffordshire bidding to be part of the contract to integrate cancer services in the county.	HSJ
307	4 August	2015	Specialist radiotherapy overhaul could result in decommissioning	Press article	An overhaul of specialist radiotherapy services could result in a number of existing providers being decommissioned, a consultation paper published by NHS England suggests. The national commissioning body last week unveiled its plans for stereotactic radiotherapy and stereotactic radiosurgery – two services which use focused beams of radiation to treat brain tumours.	HSJ
308	7 August	2015	Monitor to investigate community care services in Cornwall	Press report	Monitor has launched an investigation into Peninsula Community Health on behalf of patients in Cornwall, the first investigation involving an independent provider by the regulator. In July, the organisation confirmed that it would not be seeking to extend its contract to provide community care (such as community hospitals, district nursing and rehabilitation services) in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly beyond this financial year. The	Monitor

					health sector regulator wants to understand what action it might need to take to ensure that patients continue to have access to these essential services.	
309	10 August	2015	'Incoherent' healthcare regulation needs 'radical overhaul'	Press article	The Professional Standards Authority, which presides over the nine professional healthcare regulators, said there is little evidence as to how effective regulation is in improving health and social care standards. The PSA said there was a lack of understanding among regulators about the influence their work has on staff. The review said changes in the way the healthcare system will work in the future – such as the shift of focus from acute to community as proposed in the <i>Five Year Forward View</i> – also required reform of regulation.	HSJ
310	11 August	2015	FT finance: Biggest spenders on private healthcare	Press article	Foundation trusts spent more than £475m on sending patients to private and third sector providers in 2014-15, which is a 43 per cent increase on the figure two years ago.	HSJ
311	12 August	2015	Monitor refuses to investigate tender process despite concerns	Press article	Monitor will not investigate the awarding of a £190m mental health contract in Yorkshire, despite saying the commissioner could have done more to mitigate a conflict of interest. As reported last month, Leeds and York Partnership Foundation Trust wrote to the regulator with its concerns about a tender process run by Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group. The five year contract was awarded to Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys Trust.	HSJ
312	14 August	2015	'Other bodies' could take powers from failing CCGs	Press article	Clinical commissioning groups failing for more than a year could have their responsibilities removed and handed to other organisations, new guidance issued by NHS England indicates.	HSJ
313	17 August	2015	Virgin in running for Bristol children's community services contract	Press article	Virgin Care Services is in the running to be the interim provider of children's community services in Bristol and south Gloucestershire, after the incumbent NHS provider announced it would end its contract in March.	HSJ
314	19 August	2015	CCGs cut short struggling patient	Press article	A company providing non-emergency patient transport services in the South West is to have its contract cut short by two years. NSL Care Services'	HSJ

			transport firm's contract		contract in Devon and Cornwall has been dogged by claims of poor performance, and will end next year rather than in 2018.	
315	21 August	2015	Private providers could take big hit from NHS price changes	Press article	Based on impact assessment, Private hospitals could see a steep cut in their income from NHS funded services under draft prices proposed for 2016-17. Private providers and orthopaedic specialists could be among hardest hit by proposed changes to tariff prices.	HSJ
316	21 August	2015	Investigation into commissioning of elective care services at the North East London Treatment Centre	Statement of issues	Case reference: Pricing/CCD 07/15 – Investigation into commissioning of elective care services at the North East London Treatment Centre by Barking and Dagenham CCG, Havering CCG, Redbridge CCG and Waltham Forest CCG	HSJ
317	21 August	2015	Statement of issues: Case reference: Pricing/CCD 07/15	Notice of initiation of investigation	The case is investigating the commissioning of elective care services at the North East London Treatment Centre London by Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Havering CCG, Redbridge CCG and Waltham Forest CCG (together the CCGs). Monitor launched this investigation on 30 July 2015, following a complaint from Care UK Clinical Services Limited (Care UK).	Monitor
318	21 August	2015	Care UK claims commissioners broke competition rules	Press article	Private provider Care UK has accused NHS commissioners in north east London of breaking rules around price competition. Care UK claims CCGs did not follow pricing and competition rules when awarding North East London Treatment Centre contract to NHS trust. Company says the commissioners placed “too much weight” on price and not enough on quality. CCGs remain “confident” in their decision and that they broke no rules. The complaint follows the clinical commissioning groups awarding a contract for elective care for which it is the incumbent provider.	HSJ
319	24 August	2015	Exclusive: CSU procurements paused amid uncertainty over costs	Press article	At least two procurements for commissioning support services have been paused in the south of England. This comes amid uncertainty over how stranded costs will be paid for if a commissioning support unit loses a contract.	HSJ

320	24 August	2015	Exclusive: Vanguards urged to quickly become 'battering ram of change'	Press article	The director of NHS England's new care models programme has said the urgent and emergency care vanguards are the 'battering ram of change' and should quickly test new ideas to be replicated nationally.	HSJ
321	26 August	2015	Commissioners in Devon did not breach regulations in transforming community services	Press release	A Monitor investigation found that Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group has not breached the regulations. The commissioning of community services by Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has not breached NHS commissioning regulations, an investigation by Monitor has found. However, the CCG will be doing further work in the next phase of its process as a result of the investigation.	Monitor
322	28 August	2015	Somerset commissioners propose single health and social care budget	Press article	Bath and North East Somerset CCG and local authority propose pooling of health and social care budgets for community services	HSJ
323	1 September	2015	Care UK wins Portsmouth treatment centre contract	Press article	Private provider Care UK will continue providing services at the St Mary NHS Treatment Centre in Portsmouth after winning a five year contract for elective services at the site. The £54.6m contract awarded by Portsmouth Clinical Commissioning Group has the option for a two year extension if both parties are happy to continue beyond 2021	HSJ
324	4 September	2015	Exclusive: Leeds, Newcastle and Sheffield say no to NHS devolution		Several major city regions in the north of England have decided health and care will play no major part in their bids for devolved powers. Leeds, Newcastle and Sheffield opt not to bid for devolved NHS powers because they are not convinced devolution would allow the health and care system to achieve anything more.	
325	10 September	2015	Leading North West FTs to create 'foundation chain'	Press article	Work has started to create a foundation chain between two leading hospital trusts in the North West. Salford Royal Foundation Trust, and Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh FT are in talks about forging an "acute care collaboration". They submitted a bid to NHS England's national vanguard scheme to kickstart the project earlier this week.	HSJ

326	10 September	2015	London and Kent trusts team up for vanguard bid	Press article	Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust has put forward an acute care vanguard bid in partnership with Dartford and Gravesham Trust. It would see the London teaching hospital become a system leader. The bid was submitted this week and if successful, the highly regarded FT will share its clinical and management expertise with Dartford and Gravesham. It would also seek to create a strategic clinical network. Guy's and St Thomas' has already been working with Dartford over the last year on a number of areas including in individual clinical services, procurement and in reducing clinical variation.	HSJ
327	14 September	2015	CCGs give scathing assessment of CSU competition process	Press article	Bristol, Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Commissioners have given a damning verdict of NHS England's lead provider framework for commissioning support services. They say it is likely to land them with a worse service that costs more. The group of four clinical commissioning groups "paused" their procurement last month for at least a year because their concerns with the process were so significant.	HSJ
328	23 September	2015	A formal competitive tender process is not always necessary	Press article	A recent decision by healthcare regulator Monitor makes it clear that CCGs and NHS England have a fair degree of discretion in deciding how they will ensure compliance with these legal obligations when commissioning healthcare services.	HSJ
329	30 September	2015	Exclusive: NHS England seeks freeze in better care fund transfer	Press article	NHS England is seeking a freeze in the sum the NHS is required to pool with local government in the better care fund. This is one of the requests from the national body in negotiations for the government's comprehensive spending review in November, several senior sources confirmed.	HSJ
330	1 October	2015	Oxfordshire leaders have agreed the terms of a £175m outcomes based contract encompassing most	Press article	Oxfordshire leaders have agreed the terms of a £175m outcomes based contract encompassing most adult mental health services in the county. The five year deal has been awarded to a partnership led by the incumbent provider Oxford Health Foundation Trust. The contract was not subject to a full competitive tender after the group was identified as the most capable	HSJ

			adult mental health services in the county.		provider by commissioners a year ago. The contract goes live today, and is believed to be the first major outcomes based contract to be let for mental health services.	
331	1 October	2015	Mental health contract could land CCGs with extra costs	Press article	A controversial mental health procurement could land commissioners with added expense by leaving the existing provider, which bid unsuccessfully for the contract, with stranded costs. Clinical commissioning groups in Birmingham have jointly tendered a service to integrate mental health services for children with those for adults aged 25 and under. The contract is worth £23.7m per year, and has been awarded to a consortium called Forward Thinking Birmingham.	HSJ
332	6 October	2015	Former HEFT chief to lead biggest ever GP partnership	Press article	GPs in Birmingham will launch what is thought to be the largest ever super partnership in the NHS next month, merging at least 35 practices into a single organisation. Our Health Partnership (OHP) will launch at the beginning of November, and is initially being led by Mark Newbold, the former chief executive of Heart of England Foundation Trust. It is believed this will make it the largest single partnership providing primary care in the English NHS.	HSJ
333	7 October	2015	Essex mental health trusts consider merger	Press article	A report setting out the options for merger between South Essex Partnership and North Essex Partnership University foundation trusts said commissioners in the county planned to shift provision into less specialist care. The report said the shrinking market for mental health services in the county, combined with increased competition from other providers had prompted both organisations to think about a merger.	HSJ
334	16 October	2015	Exclusive: Struggling CCG may join leading NHS 'ACO' project	Press article	Financially troubled North Tyneside CCG may pass many of its responsibilities to Northumbria's emerging accountable care organisation. There is a forecasted £14.3m deficit this year. Both NHS England and the CCG have confirmed the idea is under consideration but declined to say whether the national body had advised it should happen.	HSJ

335	16 October	2015	Exclusive: Mental health procurement could have 'catastrophic' consequences	Press article	A controversial procurement of mental health services for young people could have 'catastrophic' consequences for related services and the people who rely on them, according to an independent impact assessment. The document was commissioned by Birmingham South Central Clinical Commissioning Group, and assessed the effects of transferring mental health services for young adults into a new combined service for people aged 0-25.	HSJ
336	19 October	2015	An NHS trust has been announced as the preferred bidder for a children's community services contract in Bristol and South Gloucestershire.	Press article	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust has been announced as the preferred bidder for a children's community services contract in Bristol and South Gloucestershire. The trust will work with Sirona Care and Health CIC and Bristol Community Health CIC to deliver the service on an interim basis for a year from April.	HSJ
337	29 October	2015	Aintree board backs proposal for Royal Liverpool merger	Press article	The board of Aintree University Hospital Foundation Trust has backed the recommendation of senior hospital consultants that it should pursue a merger with the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital Trust. The joint strategic options analysis backs a merger of the two trusts, as the best way to facilitate reconfiguration of services across their sites.	HSJ

