NHS England has today launched a four-week public consultation on proposed changes to the way its Cancer Drug Fund operates. The consultation will close at midnight on Friday 31 October.

The consultation is focused on a number of proposals to change the current Standard Operating Procedure, which sets out how the fund is managed.

There are three proposed changes. They are:

• Implementation of a re-evaluation process to assess the drugs on the current national list, and remove those which represent the lowest levels of clinical benefit;
• Inclusion into this re-evaluation system of a confidential element which assesses the average cost of a drug per patient in relation to the clinical benefit delivered; and
• Inclusion of an option which enables pharmaceutical companies to make adjustments to drug prices, in order to allow their drug/indication to remain on the CDF list.

The proposals represent a significant change to the way the CDF is currently managed, and therefore NHS England is keen to test out the proposals with as many people as possible who have an interest in the fund.

Details of the consultation, and how you can submit responses, can be found on the consultation page, where you will find two documents and an online consultation survey:

A Consultation Guide – this document introduces the Standard Operating Procedure; explains why we are consulting on it, and sets out the proposals for change and associated questions;

• The proposed Standard Operating Procedure for the CDF – this document sets out of the proposed changes to the current procedures, and are clearly highlighted for ease of reference.

If you have any questions about the materials listed above, or require them in alternative formats, please contact: england.cdfconsultation@nhs.net
External Communications NHS England www.england.nhs.uk
NHS England: High quality care for all, now and for future generations.

Please follow the link if you wish to participate in this consultation:

http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/pe/cdf/cdf-sop/