To: Dr Peter Melton  
Cc: Tim Render; Moira Dumma

Dear Dr Melton,

Delegated commissioning of primary medical services

Further to your recent application, I am pleased to confirm that NHS North East Lincolnshire CCG has been approved to take on delegated commissioning arrangements for primary medical services from 1 April 2018. This is subject to the signing of the Delegation Agreement.

Delegated commissioning offers further opportunities to develop more integrated out-of-hospital services and improve the quality of primary care. We look forward to working with you to take forward the new arrangements.

Please note CCGs must not use the delegated commissioning monies to subsidise their own (non-delegated) budgets. In-year spending against delegated and overall primary care budgets will be closely monitored, and where organisations are found to be underspending against these budgets they will be required to explain the underspends. Where this appears detrimental to service delivery the CCG may be directed to increase primary care spend up to budgeted levels.

Delegation Agreement

I enclose a copy of the Delegation Agreement. The Delegation Agreement sets out the primary medical services functions that will be delegated to your CCG and how these should be exercised. This document was developed in collaboration with CCGs and NHS Clinical Commissioners. To ensure consistency, there is one standard Delegation Agreement and we cannot accept any local variations to this.

The content of the Delegation Agreement is the same as previous years, with the exception that we have made some minor changes to reflect the new rules around data protection and data sharing.

We kindly ask that your CCG completes the relevant parts of the Delegation Agreement, signs and returns it to NHS England by 28 February 2018. To support with this, we have enclosed completion instructions and a clause-by-clause guide to the Delegation Agreement.

12 January 2018
The signed Delegation Agreement should be emailed to england.co-commissioning@nhs.net. All outstanding governance matters (such as constitutional amendments) must be resolved by the time the Delegation Agreement is signed.

To support with your review of the Delegation Agreement, we will be holding a webinar on 14 February at 13:00. This will provide an opportunity to raise any questions. If you are interested in attending the webinar, please contact: england.co-commissioning@nhs.net.

There are also a series of frequently asked questions about the Delegation Agreement on NHS England’s website: https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/pccocomms/apply/faqs/

If you have further queries, please contact your Regional Office in the first instance. Queries can be also sent to the national co-commissioning policy team at england.co-commissioning@nhs.net.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Baumann
Chief Financial Officer

Appendix 1: Delegation Agreement (for signing)
Appendix 2: Guide to the Delegation Agreement
Appendix 3: Delegation Agreement Completion Instructions