



# Mental health confidence survey – commissioner views

## February 2019

### Background

The HFMA's Mental Health Steering Group commissioned a survey to assess faculty members' confidence that their organisation and their commissioning body would achieve the targets set out for the sector in *Implementing the five year forward view for mental health*<sup>1</sup> and the mental health investment standard.

This briefing sets out the responses received from commissioning organisations to the same questions.

The survey was carried out in conjunction with NHS Clinical Commissioners and responses were received from 20 clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in December 2018 and January 2019. Not all organisations answered all questions; percentages shown relate to those who responded to that question.

### Previous work

During 2017, the HFMA's Mental Health Faculty carried out a number of surveys<sup>2</sup> around parity of esteem and the mental health investment standard. The surveys reached three main conclusions:

- the national commitment for commissioners to increase their real term investment in mental health services was a significant challenge
- there was a lack of alignment between commissioners and providers over what it meant to implement the mental health investment standard
- local visibility and transparency was crucial in enabling local areas to understand where mental health money was spent and how it was prioritised.

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<sup>1</sup> NHS England, *Implementing the five year forward view for mental health*, July 2016

<sup>2</sup> HFMA, *Mental health investment standard*, June 2017