

What do we do?



synthesis and evaluation

The West Midlands Commissioning Support Unit reviews evidence and analyses data and information to produce intelligence on the health and health care of the 5.5 million people who live in the West Midlands

- We provide up-to-date intelligence for health practitioners, policy-makers and researchers to assist with commissioning and policy decisions
- We provide education and training for commissioning organisations to support effective evidence based commissioning
- We have specialist expertise in healthcare commissioning, clinical medicine, public health, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, epidemiology, biostatistics, and research methods including information science, evidence

What has changed from the previous University of Birmingham levy funded services?...

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The previous levy funded evidence synthesis services (Aggressive Research Intelligence Facility and Regional Evaluation Panel) and the levy funded policy analysis and evaluation services (A&E Surveillance and Health Services Research and Quality) have undergone development and integration in response to what our commissioner (West Midlands Specialised Commissioning Team) and funders (West Midlands Primary Care Trusts) now require

The new integrated service, now called the West Midlands Commissioning Support Unit, has a work programme reflecting the products and services requested by PCTs and the emerging Clinical Commissioning Consortia

We also work with the University of Keele Medicines Evaluation Unit to deliver the range of intelligence products and services in the WMCSU work programme

Previous ARIF Requests and Regional Evaluation Panel Reports can be accessed via the following links:

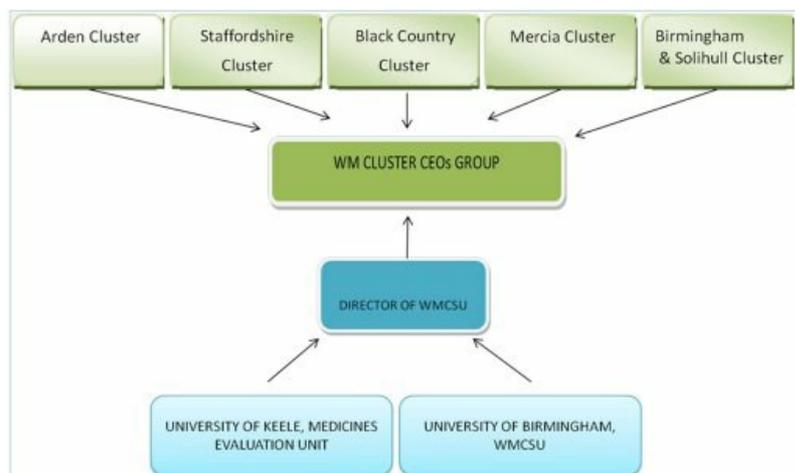
<http://www.arif.bham.ac.uk/completed.shtml> (<http://www.arif.bham.ac.uk/completed.shtml>)

http://www.rep.bham.ac.uk/reports_a-z.shtml

(http://www.rep.bham.ac.uk/reports_a-z.shtml)

How is the West Midlands Commissioning Support Unit funded?...

- The WMCSU is funded by the West Midlands PCTs
- From March 2011 to October 2011, the WMCSU products and services were commissioned on behalf of the WM PCTs by a lead commissioner within the West Midlands Specialised Commissioning Team. The Director of the WMCSU was accountable to this lead commissioner for delivery of the WMCSU work programme
- The Director of the WMCSU manages the contract for the University of Keele, Medicines Evaluation Unit
- Since October 2011, when the West Midlands Specialist Commissioning Team ceased to operate, new arrangements were required, and these are summarised in the chart below:



Who can use WMCSU products and services?...

Everyone:

- NHS Commissioners
- NHS Providers
- Local Authorities
- Researchers
- Public

