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Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Iechyd
Arbenigol Cymru (PGIAC)
Welsh Health Specialised
Services Committee (WHSSC)

WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE JOINT COMMITTEE – September 2016

Welsh Health Specialised Services held its latest public meeting on 27 September 2016. This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and aims to ensure everyone is kept up to date with what is happening in Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee.

The papers for the September meeting are available [here](#).

Action Log

Members **noted** the action log. Members received updates on:

- JC001 Specialised Services Strategy. Members **noted** that staffing constraints were impacting on progress and that additional support will be sought;
- JC003 Risk Sharing Review. Members **noted** that the Director of Finance is working with LHBs to ensure that all technical questions have been answered. It was **agreed** that this item would be included on the agenda for the November Joint Committee. The Chair **agreed** to discuss further the escalation process with Welsh Government; and
- JC012 Commissioning of Organ Donation Services from NHS Blood and Transplant. Members **noted** that a draft Memorandum of Understanding with Welsh Government had been developed and that further work is now underway to develop the contract with NHS Blood and Transplant.

Chair's Report

Members **noted** the Chairs report. The Chair drew attention to the following item within the update report:

- Neuro-endocrine Tumours. Members **noted** that there had been difficulties in progression of the steps to improve service, that a business case has recently been received and is being taken forward. Members **noted** that until the local service achieves accreditation the pathways to Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen Hospitals NHS Trust and the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust would remain open.

Acting Managing Director's Report

Members **noted** the Acting Managing Director's report. The Managing Director drew attention to the following:

- Thoracic Surgery Review. Members **noted** that concern had been raised by the review panel on the on-call arrangements. Work is underway to confirm the arrangements and validate data in relation to waiting time target breaches.

Neonatal trainee allocation and future workforce planning: Recommendations for neonatal intensive care units in south Wales

Members **noted** the paper which included a recommendation on the allocation of medical trainees to either the Royal Gwent or Singleton Hospitals and a workforce proposal which aimed to deliver sustainable staffing in the three Neonatal Intensive Care Units in South Wales. The workforce paper developed by the Task and Finish Workforce Group also provided a risk assessment.

In her summing up, the Chair of the Joint Committee confirmed the Joint Committee members endorsement the recommendations with a caveat that all three NICUs must work as a united team, taking forward innovative and creative workforce solutions, with a rigorous process for monitoring. She also emphasised the need to use this as an opportunity to develop a much more sustainable service, which enhances the care available to babies and their parents.

It was **agreed** that WHSSC Officers would seek to develop a formal mechanism for ensuring future collaboration over workforce models.

Members **resolved** to:

- **Approve** the recommendation of the independent assessment panel to the Joint Committee regarding the future allocation of trainees from the Wales Deanery to Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in South Wales. Wales Deanery trainees will therefore be allocated to Singleton Hospital from March 2017.
- **Approve** the recommendation of the Task and Finish Workforce Group, to ensure the delivery of both short and longer term sustainable staffing models to maintain three NICUs in South Wales.

Horizon scanning and prioritisation of new interventions by WHSSC for funding in 2017/18

Members **noted** the paper which provided the proposed revised horizon scanning and prioritisation process for WHSSC.

Members **resolved** to:

- **Support** the recommendation that this approach offers a clear and transparent process of prioritisation when comparing competing proposals for new investment; and
- **Support** the proposal that the policy consultation process should not delay the commissioning of evidence evaluation, which will be required irrespective of the final process adopted.

Development of the Integrated Commissioning Plan for Specialised Services 2017-2020

Members **noted** the paper which included a series of proposals for ensuring closer integration between NHS Wales provider and commissioner organisations in the development of the *Integrated Commissioning Plan for Specialised Services 2017-20*, and set out the draft commissioning intentions to guide the development of the plan.

Following discussion it was **agreed** that the step to establish the demand and capacity at a Health Board level which was missing from the paper would be articulated.

Members **resolved** to:

- **Approve** the proposed process and draft timeline for the development of the integrated commissioning plan for specialised services for 2017-20; and
- **Approve** the draft *Strategic Commissioning Intentions for Specialised Services 2017/18*.

Thoracic Surgery Review

Members **noted** the paper which provided an update on the progress of the Thoracic Surgery Review, in particular, the Royal College of Surgeons Invited Review.

Members **agreed** to receive a briefing note when assurance regarding cover and on call arrangements had been received.

Members **resolved** to:

- **Support** for the project structure and the terms of reference for the Project Board; and
- **Receive** a further paper at the Joint Committee scheduled for January 2017.

Update on Implementation of the Plan

Members **noted** the paper which provided an update on the status of the higher risk 'amber' schemes, and which notified members of the timeline for considering economic benefit amber schemes.

Members **noted** and **supported** the intention for a workshop to be held with Management Group members.

Members **resolved** to:

- **Approve** delegation of the highest risk amber schemes (3 related neurosurgery schemes, clinical immunology and cleft lip and palate) totalling a maximum of £1.877m pa to the WHSSC Management Group for decision, on a case by case basis; and
- **Receive** an update on the remaining schemes will be made to the November Joint Committee meeting.

WHSSC Joint Committee Self Assessment 2015/16

Members **noted** the paper which provided information on the outcome of the annual self assessment of the committee.

Delivery of the Integrated Commissioning Plan 2016/17

Members **noted** the paper which provided an update for the delivery and implementation of the work plan 2016/17 (as at the end of July 2016). The paper included:

- The progress against the work plan 2016/17
- The development of the risk management monitoring; and
- The funding release schedule.

Concerns Report

Members **noted** the update on concerns.

Performance Management

Members **received** the performance management report.

Finance Report

Members **received** the finance report for Month 5.

Joint Sub Committees and Advisory Groups

Members **noted** the update reports from the following joint sub committees and advisory groups:

- Integrated Governance Committee;
- Quality and Patient Safety Committee;
- All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request Panel;
- Welsh Renal Clinical Network;
- Management Group;
- Wales Neonatal Network;
- Gender Dysphoria Partnership Board;
- Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Collaborative Commissioning Group;
- All Wales Posture Mobility Service Partnership Board; and

- Wales Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Eating Disorders Network Steering Group

In relation to the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Collaborative Commissioning Group, Members **noted** that further work is being undertaken to explore placement in alternative settings rather than preferred settings for clients with Learning Disabilities. Members also **noted** that a report would be brought to the Joint Committee in November 2016 with regards to reporting and the work of the Quality Assurance and Improvement Team.

Members, in relation to the Wales CAMHS and Eating Disorders Network, **supported** the refresh of the CAMHS framework.