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

## **WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE JOINT COMMITTEE – MAY 2017**

Welsh Health Specialised Services held its latest public meeting on 30 May 2017. This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and aims to ensure everyone is kept up to date with what's happening in Welsh Health Specialised Services.

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

The meeting was inquorate but the Chair received support to proceed provided any decisions were taken by Chair's action or unanimous written approval following the meeting, as appropriate.

### **Action Log**

Members noted the action log. Members received an update on:

- JC021 - Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR): Independent Review – current concerns were focused on (1) increased volume of requests and development of a parallel process for considering PET scan applications, and (2) non-attendance of clinical representatives at IPFR Panels.

### **Chair's Report**

Members noted the Chair's report.

### **Acting Managing Director's Report**

Members noted the Acting Managing Director's report and in particular:

- Associate Medical Director Appointments  
Members noted the appointment of five Associate Medical Directors; an important step in strengthening and embedding clinical engagement within WHSSC's work.
- Interventional Neuroradiology  
The recruitment process had not been successful and there had been a consequent interruption to the service. The WHSSC Team was working closely with the provider to address the issue and arrange contingency cover.
- Neurorehabilitation  
A range of concerns had been raised around the service. Members noted that the WHSSC Team was investigating concerns related to

commissioning and patient flow. Assurances were provided that, at this time, there were no concerns around patient safety.

- Thoracic Surgery – Additional capacity  
Weekend working at UHW, Cardiff during February 2017, had improved the position for south east Wales patients and consideration was being given as to how this could be sustained going forward  
A referral pathway to University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust had been agreed for patients from south west Wales. It was anticipated that patients would start to be transferred from the end of June 2017.
- Cardiac Surgery  
Work was continuing with the Delivery Support Unit to ensure appropriate pathway start dates for the cardiac surgery service. Breaches in the surgical pathway had occurred when the start dates were corrected at late notice. This was having an impact on the management of waiting lists.
- Neonatal Transport  
Work was ongoing in relation to the development of proposals for a 24/7 neonatal transport service in south Wales. However, there is no funding provision for this within the WHSSC 2017-20 ICP. A paper would come to Joint Committee in due course.

### **WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan 2017-20**

Members received a presentation on the key themes for the latest version of the Plan that was largely based on the Technical Plan agreed in March 2017 and submitted to Welsh Government on 31 March 2017. Minor changes and refinements were suggested. The Chair undertook to distribute the final version of the Plan to members with an explanation of any revisions, seeking their written approval.

### **Provision of Specialised Neurosciences in NHS Wales**

Members received a report outlining the current provision of Specialised Neurosciences which will inform a Five Year Commissioning Strategy for Specialised Neurosciences by the end of 2017. Members welcomed the work as a strong foundation for the development of the Strategy and recognised the complexities.

Members:

- Noted the current provision of Specialised Neurosciences for patients in NHS Wales which will inform the Five Year Commissioning Strategy;
- Supported the urgent establishment of network arrangements with NHS England providers for Interventional Neuroradiology;
- Supported the establishment of an operational delivery network for Specialised Rehabilitation in south Wales;

- Supported the collective approach to the commissioning of Paediatric Neurology in both north and south Wales; and
- Supported the proposal to implement a service specification for Specialist Spinal Surgery and a phased implementation of application of this to the listing of specialist spinal patients within Neurosurgery.

### **Delivery of the Integrated Commissioning Plan 2016-17**

Members received a report providing an update on the delivery of the Integrated Commissioning Plan for Specialised Services 2016-17 at the end of March 2017.

Members:

- Noted the progress made in the delivery of the 2016/17 ICP;
- Noted the funding release proforma schedule;
- Noted the risk management summary.

### **Performance Dashboard**

Members received the report for February 2017, which provided a summary of the key issues arising and detailed the actions being undertaken to address areas of non-compliance.

### **Financial Performance Report**

Members received the finance report for Month 1 2017-18 noting a forecast under spend to year-end of £602k. No underlying concerns were noted.

### **Joint Sub Committees and Advisory Groups**

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

- Quality and Patient Safety Committee
- All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request Panel
- Integrated Governance Committee
- Welsh Renal Clinical Network
- Management Group
- Cwm Taf Audit Committee