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

WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 2020

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on 9 March 2021. This briefing sets out the key areas of consideration and aims to ensure everyone is kept up to date with what is happening in Welsh Health Specialised Services.

The papers for the meeting are available at:

<https://whssc.nhs.wales/joint-committee/committee-meetings-and-papers/2020-2021-meeting-papers/>

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meetings of 10 November and 15 December 2020 were taken as read and approved.

Action log & matters arising

Members noted there were no outstanding actions or matters arising.

Chair's Report

The Chair's Report referred members to Chair's Actions taken to approve proposals to utilise forecast underspend in 2020-21 and a Chair's Action taken to approve the conversion of a locum plastic consultant surgeon post in the South Wales Trauma Network to a substantive post, which were ratified.

In addition, the Chair reported that Ian Phillips has agreed to stand for a further two years as an Independent Member, in accordance with the WHSSC Standing Orders. His initial term expires on 31 March. The Chair recommended his re-appointment with effect from 1 April 2021 which was supported by members.

Managing Director's Report

The Managing Director's report, including updates on the PET CT Programme Business Case and the revised WHSSC Risk Management Strategy, was taken as read.

In addition, an oral report was given on UHW2, explaining that, on 23 February, the CEO and representatives from CVUHB met with the WHSSC

Executive team to present an overview of their programme business case for the development of a new strategic model for services, including specialised services, in Cardiff including the redevelopment of hospital based services. The current proposal does not set a physical location for hospital services but rather the key elements of the service model. The CVUHB team emphasised that core to the development of the case has been partnership working with other Welsh providers and commissioners. In addition they emphasised the opportunities of strengthening and building upon academic partnerships and business partners in the field of biotechnology. Following on from the meeting the team from CVUHB have agreed to extend the scope of the engagement to NHSE providers where synergies may exist or be developed.

The WHSSC Executive team support the scope and approach to the development of the programme business case.

CAMHS Tier 4 Services

Members received a paper that sought to inform them of the current Tier 4 CAMHS commissioning issues and risks. It also highlighted a number of wider pathway concerns that are having an impact on Tier 4 and the actions being proposed to address them.

A progress update will be provided to the May Joint Committee meeting.

Members (1) noted the current Tier 4 CAMHS commissioning issues affecting service delivery outlined in the report; and (2) supported the proposed actions to address these issues including the wider pathway concerns.

2.5 Disestablishment of the All Wales Posture and Mobility Partnership Board

Members received a paper that provided a brief overview of the work that has been undertaken to improve the Posture and Mobility Service in Wales and sought support to disband the All Wales Posture and Mobility Service Partnership Board and its sub-groups with Stakeholder and Partnership Engagement events continuing twice yearly under 'business as usual' arrangements.

Members (1) noted the work undertaken by the Posture and Mobility Service and the Partnership Board; (2) supported the proposal to disband the All Wales Posture and Mobility Service Partnership Board along with the sub-groups; and (3) supported the recommendation to hold Stakeholder and Partnership Engagement events twice yearly.

Socio-economic Duty

Members received a paper that briefed them on the new Socio-economic Duty that comes into effect from 31 March 2021 and the work done by the WHSS Team to prepare for compliance with the Duty.

Members noted the content of the report.

WHSSC Joint Committee Annual Business Cycle 2021-22

Members received a paper that provided them with the Draft Joint Committee Annual Business Cycle 2021-22.

Members noted and supported the content of the report, including the schedule of meetings for 2021-22.

Integrated Commissioning Plan 2021-22 (ICP)

Members received and supported the final version of the ICP that reflected the changes agreed by the Joint Committee on 16 February 2021.

Activity Report for Month 9 2020-21

Members received a paper that highlighted the scale of the decrease in activity levels during the COVID-19 period, and whether there are any signs of recovery in specialised services activity. These activity decreases are shown in the context of the potential risk re patient harms and of the loss of value from nationally agreed financial block contract arrangements.

Members noted the information presented in the report.

Financial Performance Report – Month 10 2020-21

Members received a paper that set out the financial position for WHSSC for month 10 of 2020-21, including an under spend to Month 10 of £16.7m and a forecast under spend of £14.7m at the year end.

The under spend related mainly to months 1-10 underspend on the pass through elements of Welsh provider SLA's, NHS England anticipated underperformance against agreed block contracts where provider activity is forecast at > 20% below agreed baseline and Q1 – Q3 2020-21 development slippage.

Members noted the current financial position and forecast year-end position.

Other reports

Members also took as read the update reports from the following joint Sub-committees and Advisory Groups:

- Management Group;
- All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request Panel;

- Quality & Patient Safety Committee; and
- Integrated Governance Committee

South Wales Neonatal Transport

Members received a letter from clinicians working in the south Wales Neonatal Transport Service expressing their concerns with the current proposal to commission a permanent 24/7 service based on a lead provider model. Members were advised that the WHSS Team had agreed the next steps in commissioning the service in discussion with C Shillabeer and the Director of the NHS Wales Health Collaborative, whereby a paper outlining the issues will be taken to the NHS Wales Health Collaborative Executive Group meeting on the 16 March 2021.

