



WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE (WHSSC) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING BRIEFING – 11 JANUARY 2022

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on 11 January 2022. This briefing sets out the key areas of consideration and aims to ensure everyone is kept up to date with what is happening within the Welsh Health Specialised Services.

The papers for the meeting can be accessed at:

<https://whssc.nhs.wales/joint-committee/committee-meetings-and-papers/2021-2022-meeting-papers/>

1.0 Managing Director's Report

Members received the Managing Director's Report and **noted** updates on:

- **Ty Llewellyn Medium Secure Unit** - The assurance review undertaken by the National Collaborative Commissioning Unit (NCCU) Quality Assurance Service in the Ty Llewellyn Male Medium Secure Unit at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) and the future requirement for an action plan from the Health Board; and
- **System Resilience and the Local Options Framework Impact – Weekly Reporting** - As a consequence of challenges in achieving quoracy, linked to COVID-19 operational pressures at Health Board (HB) level, and the recent letter from Mrs Judith Paget CEO of NHS Wales suggesting NHS bodies step down any non-essential meetings, the panel have returned to the process previously adopted during the start of the pandemic to ensure business continuity. The full IPFR Panel meeting will be stood down for January 2022, and the Chair's action arrangement outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToR) will be used, strengthened by including the attendance of two WHSSC Clinical Directors and a lay member representative. Therefore, the strengthened Chair's Action option for Panel decisions will be used during January 2022 instead of the full Panel. Members **noted** that an update report will be presented to the Joint Committee on 18 January 2021.

Members **noted** the report.

2.0 Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2022-2025

Members received the WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2022-2025 for approval and were requested to approve its submission to Welsh Government (WG) in line with the requirements set out in the WG Planning Guidance.

Members noted that:

- In November 2021 the Joint Committee (JC) had requested that an extraordinary JC meeting be held on 11 January 2022 to approve the WHSSC Integrated Plan (ICP) ahead of Health Board (HB) Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTP's) being submitted to Boards for approval;
- The Management Group (MG) met on 6 December 2021 and were advised that it may be necessary for MG to convene an ad hoc meeting in early January 2022 for further discussion of the ICP once the HBs had received their financial allocation letters from Welsh Government (WG) and that they would contact the WHSS team with any issues arising from the allocation letters as required; and
- Following the December meeting no formal contact had been received from any MG members to request an ad hoc meeting, however informal feedback had been received from some HBs advising that they may not be in a position to provide final sign off of the ICP at present as they were still working on their own IMTPs.

Members **discussed** the challenges for HBs related to the allocation letter and the increasing levels of uncertainty regarding the recovery position and the risks that this posed. Members **noted** that HBs were still working through their own plans and may not be able to commit to fully approving the ICP at this point, and agreed that the ICP be approved in principle subject to further work being completed with the MG to further explore the risk appetite and specifically the potential for further financial slippage that could reduce the increase needed for the first year of the ICP whilst maintaining a prudent view of the recurrent position. The WHSSC team indicated that the potential for further slippage had already been identified by the team and would be shared in advance. The areas for risk appetite review include the time lag estimated for new developments to fully account for manpower shortages and recovery rate uncertainty, recognising that some new developments may need to be brought on more quickly than others. The scale of the potential reduction in the year 1 requirement was indicated to be a reduction to circa 5.11% from the current 6.57%.

Members (1) **Approved** the Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2022-2025 **in principle** as the basis of the information to be included in the Health Board IMTP's, and **agreed** to refer the ICP back to the

Management Group meeting on 20 January 2022 for further discussion on the financial allocation and tables, and that a special extraordinary JC meeting be scheduled in February 2022 to formally approve the plan in readiness for submission to Welsh Government by the end of February deadline.

