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

WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE (WHSSC) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING BRIEFING – 17 JANUARY 2023

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on 17 January 2023. 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. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8 November 2022 were **approved** as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2. Action log & matters arising

Members **noted** the progress on the actions outlined on the action log.

3. Draft Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2023-2024

Members received a presentation on the draft Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2023-2024 and a report presenting the plan for approval.

Members noted that the ICP had been updated following the Joint Committee ICP workshop on 10 January 2023 during which a range of scenarios were considered and it was recognised that the financial situation of NHS Wales had become clearer and the context for consideration of the plan had become more difficult.

Members discussed the financial elements of the plan and noted the constrained economic environment, recovery challenges and the volatile inflationary pressures. Members agreed to support the plan in principle but requested that additional work was required to focus on risks, efficiencies, monitoring and reporting, to be undertaken before being brought back to an extraordinary Joint Committee meeting in February 2023, in order to approve the ICP in readiness for inclusion in Health Board (JB) Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTP's).

Members (1) **Noted** that the Plan has been finalised following the Joint Committee Workshop held on 10 January 2023, (2) **Agreed** to support the plan in principle but requested additional work be undertaken to focus on risks, efficiencies, monitoring and reporting before they could provide final approval,

(3) **Agreed** to convene an extraordinary Joint Committee meeting in February 2023 to:

- **Approve** the requirements of the Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) for inclusion in Health Board Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTPs); and
- **Approve** the Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2023-2024 for submission to Welsh Government.

4. Chair's Report

Members received the Chair's Report and **noted**:

- Key meetings attended.

Members **noted** the report

5. Managing Director's Report

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

- **National Skin Camouflage Pilot Service** - WHSSC had received a formal request from Welsh Government (WG) following agreement at the NHS Wales Leadership Board (NWLB) for WHSSC to commission the national skin camouflage pilot service,
- **Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Engagement Update** – The formal engagement process to review the WHSSC Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) panel Terms of Reference (ToR) and the specific and limited review of the all Wales IPFR policy, commenced on 10 November 2022 for a 6- week period following the Joint Committee supporting the proposed engagement process at its meeting on 8 November 2022. The feedback is being reviewed and an update will be provided to the Joint Committee in March 2023,
- **Board Development - Compassionate and Collective Leadership in Health and Social Care** - On 29 November 2022, the CDGB received a briefing from Professor Michael West CBE on Compassionate and Collective Leadership in Health and Social Care as part of his mandate to visit all NHS bodies to discuss the importance of compassionate and collective leadership, which is being led by Health Education & Improvement Wales (HEIW). Professor West will facilitate a session with the Joint Committee in 2023 to support discussions on working in partnership, developing cross-boundary team-based working and system leadership.

Members **noted** the report.

6. Plastic Surgery: realignment of future commissioning responsibilities between WHSSC and Health Boards

Members received a report outlining the outcome of the plastic surgery commissioning workshop held with the Management Group in September 2022 and to request support for WHSSC to establish a project to realign

commissioning responsibilities for plastic surgery between WHSSC and Health Boards (HBs).

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Noted** the outcome of the Management Group plastic surgery workshop held in September 2022, (3) **Considered** and **approved** the proposed realignment of commissioning arrangements for plastic surgery so that non-specialised surgery will be commissioned by Health Boards (HBs) and specialised surgery will be commissioned by WHSSC; (4) **Supported** a project led by WHSSC to undertake the work to transfer commissioning responsibility for non-specialised plastic surgery to Health Boards (HBs) and retain specialised surgery as commissioned by WHSSC.

7. WHSSC Cardiac Review

Members received a report addressing a number of recent events and trends that had impacted the WHSSC-commissioned cardiac surgery and TAVI services, and which sought to identify how they might be coherently and collectively addressed. The subjects of this analysis comprise:

- The 2021 GIRFT review of cardiac surgery,
- Changes to the volume of TAVI and cardiac surgery, together with cardiac surgery performance and escalation issues; and
- The clinical rationale for the selection of TAVI valves, in view of their differential costs.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Noted** the impact of the recent events and trends as drivers change in the commissioning of cardiac surgery and TAVI services, (3) **Noted** the important link between the cardiac review and the Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) in that the work will conclude what level of cardiac surgery is required and inform the scale of any resultant de-commissioning, (4) **Approved** the development of new contract baselines for cardiac surgery and TAVI, (Stage 1), to be completed by June 2023, (5) **Approved** the proposal that the current TAVI commissioning policy be reviewed (Stage 1), to be completed by June 2023; and (6) **Approved** the recommendation that further demand and capacity planning be undertaken, concluding with an options appraisal to identify the preferred future service configuration of WHSSC-commissioned cardiac surgery and TAVI activity (Stage 2), to be undertaken during 2023-24 and 2024-25.

8. Governance Review of Welsh Kidney Network (WKN)

Members received a report which outlined the recommendations from the recent independent Governance Review for the Welsh Kidney Network (WKN) and which provided an assurance that the recommendations were being enacted through an action plan that had been developed, agreed and monitored through the WKN Board.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Received assurance** that there are robust processes in place to ensure delivery of the recommendations

detailed within the recent Governance Review of the Welsh Kidney Network (WKN).

9. South Wales Trauma Network Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) Report (Quarter 2 2022-23)

Members received a report providing a summary of the Quarter 2 2022-23 Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) report of the South Wales Major Trauma Network (SWTN).

Members noted the South Wales Major Trauma Network (SWTN) Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) Report for Quarter 2 2022-2023.

10. Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF)

Members received a report presenting the updated Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF) which outlined the risks scoring 15 or above on the commissioning teams and directorate risk registers, which provided an update on the progress made to develop the CRAF following the risk management workshop held in September 2022 and which presented a revised risk appetite statement for approval.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; (2) **Approved** the updated Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF) and **noted** the changes to the risks outlined in the report as at 31 December 2022, (3) **Noted** that a risk workshop was held in September 2022 to review the CRAF and WHSSC's risk appetite; and (4) **Approved** the updated risk appetite statement.

11. All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Programme Board Update

Members received a report providing an update on the All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Programme, including an assessment of clinical demand and growth for PET scanning in Wales and requests support for the recommendation to Welsh Government (WG) that a fourth scanner will be needed to meet predicted scanning demand.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Considered** and **approved** a recommendation to Welsh Government (WG) (Programme Sponsor) for a fourth fixed PET scanning site within Wales, based upon up-to-date assessment of clinical demand, which confirms growth is in line with that described in the original Programme Business Case (PBC); and (3) **Received assurance** that there are robust processes in place to ensure delivery of the All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Programme.

12. COVID-19 Period Activity Report for Month 7 2022-2023 COVID-19 Period

Members received a report that highlighted the scale of the decrease in activity levels during the peak COVID-19 period and whether there were any signs of recovery in specialised services activity.

Members **noted** the report.

13. Financial Performance Report – Month 8 2022-2023

Members received the financial performance report setting out the financial position for WHSSC for month 8 2022-2023. The financial position was reported against the 2022-2023 baselines following approval of the 2022-2023 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) by the Joint Committee in February 2022.

The financial position reported at Month 8 for WHSSC is a year-end outturn forecast under spend of £14,195k.

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

14. Corporate Governance Matters

Members received a report providing an update on corporate governance matters that had arisen since the previous meeting.

Members **noted** the report.

15. Other reports

Members also **noted** update reports from the following joint Sub-committees and Advisory Groups:

- Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)
- Management Group (MG),
- All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel
- Welsh Kidney Network (WKN)



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