

WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE (WHSSC) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING BRIEFING – 10 MAY 2022

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on the 10 May 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. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on the 15 March 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. Genomics Presentation

Members received an informative presentation on the All Wales Genomics Laboratory and how the Wales Infants and Children's Genome Service (WINGS) had pushed the boundaries of genomic testing in Wales to an unprecedented scale using whole genome sequencing which had the capacity to sequence the entire DNA structure of the human body in a matter of hours.

Members noted the Watson family's patient story (publically available on the BBC website) which shared their first hand experience of using the WINGS, when their baby suffered from breathing difficulties and complications to her nose and airways.

Members **noted** the presentation.

4. Chair's Report

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

- An update on the proposal for an interim Chair of the Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel,
- Attendance at the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) meetings on the 30 March 2022 & 19 April 2022; and
- Attendance at key meetings.

Members **noted** the report.

5. Managing Director's Report

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

- That WHSSC had been successful in publishing an article in the Applied Health Economics and Health Policy Journal on a "A Case Study on Reviewing Specialist Services Commissioning in Wales: TAVI for Severe Aortic Stenosis",
- The first two NRP (Normothermic Regional Perfusion) organ retrievals undertaken by the the Cardiff Transplant Retrieval Service,
- The stakeholder engagement being undertaken on the Genomics Delivery Plan for Wales,
- The positive feedback received following the Extension of the FastTrack Process for Military Personnel; and
- The findings of a review into Molecular Radiotherapy (MRT) to guide development of an all Wales MRT service.

Members **noted** the report.

6. Interim Appointment of Chair for the All Wales IPFR Panel

Members received a report proposing that an Interim Chair is appointed to the Individual Patient Funding Request Panel (IPFR) for a 3 month period to support business continuity and to allow sufficient time to prepare for, and undertake, a recruitment process to appoint a substantive Chair.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Approved** the proposal to appoint an interim Chair to the Individual Patient Funding Request Panel (IPFR) for a 3 month period to support business continuity and to allow sufficient time to recruit a substantive Chair.

7. Neonatal Transport Operational Delivery Network

Members received a report providing an update from the Neonatal Transport Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) established to provide commissioner assurance on the neonatal transport service.

Members (1) **Noted** the information presented within the report; and (2) **Received assurance** that there were robust processes in place to ensure delivery of the neonatal transport services.

8. Draft Mental Health Specialised Services Strategy for Wales 2022-2028

Members received a report presenting the draft Mental Health Specialised Services Strategy for Wales 2022-2028, and seeking endorsement for its circulation through key stakeholder groups for comment.

Members (1) **Noted** the draft Mental Health Specialised Services Strategy for Wales 2022-2028, and provided comments on the document,

(2) **Noted** that the draft Mental Health Specialised Services Strategy for Wales 2022- 2028 would be circulated through a comprehensive stakeholder list in a bilingual format for comment and that the suggested date of between 10 May and 6 June 2022, would be reviewed and extended; and (3) **Noted** that it was anticipated that the final strategy would be published during Winter 2022, and will be brought back to the Joint Committee for approval.

9. Preparedness for the COVID-19 Inquiry

Members received a report providing an update on WHSSC's preparedness for the COVID-19 Public Inquiry.

Members **noted** the report.

10. Disestablishment of the NHS Wales Mental Health and Learning Disability Collaborative Commissioning Group

Members received a report providing a brief overview of the work that had been undertaken by the NHS Wales Mental Health and Learning Disability Collaborative Commissioning Group and which was seeking support to disestablish the advisory group, as there was no longer a requirement for it to be established as a sub group of the Joint Committee.

Members (1) **Noted** the work undertaken by the Joint Committee's sub group the NHS Wales Mental Health and Learning Disability Collaborative Commissioning Group, (2) **Approved** the proposal to disestablish the NHS Wales Mental Health and Learning Disability Collaborative Commissioning Group; and (3) **Noted** that the work of the group had been incorporated into the Inclusion and Corporate Business Division within Social Services in Welsh Government (WG), and that further consideration was required on the system of oversight of health board commissioned LD placements.

11. Annual Governance Statement 2021-2022

Members received the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2021-22 for retrospective approval.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Noted** that the Draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) was endorsed at the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) on 19 April 2022 and the draft was submitted to CTMUHB in readiness for the 29 April 2022 deadline set, (3) **Approved** the WHSSC Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2021-2022, (4) **Noted** that the WHSSC Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2021-2022 will be included in the CTMUHB Annual report being submitted to Welsh Government and Audit Wales by 15 June 2022, recognising that it had been reviewed and agreed by the relevant sub committees of the Joint Committee; and (5) **Noted** that the final WHSSC Annual Governance Statement (AGS) will be included in the Annual Report presented at the CTMUHB Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 28 July 2022.

12. Sub-Committee Annual Reports 2021-2022

Members received the Sub- Committee Annual Reports for the reporting period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 which set out the activities of each sub-committee during the year and detailing the results of reviews into performance.

Members **noted** the Sub-Committee Annual Reports for 2021-2022.

13. Sub-Committee Terms of Reference

Members received the updated Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC), the Quality & Patient Safety Committee (QPSC) and the Management Group (MG) for approval.

Members noted that ToR for the sub-committees of the Joint Committee were reviewed on an annual basis in line with Standing Orders and to ensure effective governance.

Members noted that ToR for the Welsh Renal Clinical Network (WRCN) were approved by the Joint Committee on 18 January 2022, and discussions were ongoing with Welsh Government concerning updating the ToR for the All Wales IPFR panel.

Members (1) **Noted** that the Terms of Reference were discussed and approved at sub-committee meetings on 30 March 2022 and 28 April 2022; and (2) **Approved** the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC), the Quality & Patient Safety Committee (QPSC) and the Management Group (MG).

14. COVID-19 Period Activity Report for Month 11 2021-2022

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 (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Agreed** to hold an extended session on activity reporting at the next meeting of the Joint Committee in July to scrutinise provider recovery reports.

15. Financial Performance Report – Month 12 2021-2022

Members received the financial performance report setting out the financial position for WHSSC for month 12 2021-2022. The financial position was reported against the 2021-2022 baselines following approval of the 2021-2022 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) by the Joint Committee in January 2021.

The financial position reported at Month 12 for WHSSC was a year-end outturn under spend of £13,112k.

Members **noted** the report.

16. 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.

17. Other reports

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

- Audit & Risk Committee (ARC)
- Management Group (MG),
- Quality & Patient Safety Committee (QPSC),
- Integrated Governance Committee (IGC),
- All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR)Panel; and
- Welsh Renal Clinical Network (WRCN).

