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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 – 18 JULY 2023

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on 18 July 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 using the link below:
[2023/2024 Joint Committee - Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee \(nhs.wales\)](https://www.nhs.uk/2023/2024-Joint-Committee-Welsh-Health-Specialised-Services-Committee)

1. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on the 16 May 2023 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. NHSE Funding Growth / Impact on Providers

Members **received** a presentation on the variation in growth and specialised services across the UK.

Members **noted** that work had been undertaken to analyse the variation in growth relating to specialised services across the different NHS sectors. The Joint Committee had requested that the work be undertaken to gain a benchmark of how Welsh services performed in comparison with those in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Members **noted** the presentation.

4. Chair's Report

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

- **Chair's Action** - The Chair's Action taken on 14 June 2023 to appoint Carolyn Donoghue, Independent Member (IM) at CTMUHB, as a WHSSC IM for an initial term of 2 years from 1 July 2023 until 30 June 2025, in accordance with the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (Wales) Regulations 2009 and the WHSSC Standing Orders (SOs); and
- **Key meetings attended**

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Ratified** the Chair's action taken on 14 June 2023 to appoint Carolyn Donoghue, Independent Member (IM) at CTMUHB, as a WHSSC IM for an initial 2 year term from 1 July 2023 until 30 June 2025.

5. Managing Director's Report

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

- **Hosting Agreement with CTMUHB – Statutory Duty of Candour and the Duty of Quality** - Cwm Taf Morgannwg (CTMUHB), acting as Host Health Board (HB), requires WHSSC to use its reasonable endeavours to comply with this legislation in its activities where appropriate. WHSSC have written to CTMUHB to confirm we are aware of our duties and to advise that we will report on compliance with the duties within the Annual Governance Statement (AGS),
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with BCUHB** - WHSSC and Betsi Cadwaladr UHB (BCUHB) have developed a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set out the arrangements for the management of contracts and commissioning for the population of North Wales from English providers. The MoU clearly describes the arrangements and responsibilities if a serious quality concern or risk materialises. The MoU has been signed by both parties and is operational with immediate effect,
- **Requests for WHSSC to Commission New Services – WHSSC has received requests to commission new services for NHS Wales**
 - Sacral Nerve Stimulation (SNS) for faecal incontinence in South Wales; and
 - Neurophysiology

The workload associated with the adoption of new services during 2023-24 will be absorbed into the existing WHSSC Team capacity. A review of the longer-term workload impact, including the potential commissioning of Hepato-Pancreato- biliary (HPB) Surgery Services will be undertaken and will inform the 2024-25 ICP,

- **Fertility Update - WHSSC Policy development: - CP37 Pre-implantation Genetic Testing-Monogenic Disorders, Commissioning Policy - CP38, Specialist Fertility Services: Assisted Reproductive Medicine, Commissioning Policy** - The WHSSC team have been in discussion with Llais, regarding issues raised during the stakeholder engagement exercise on the above policies. In response to feedback, WHSSC will revise its Policy for Policies, and a paper describing the proposed approach is on the agenda for the July JC meeting. There is ongoing dialogue regarding the individual policies (CP37 and CP38) and a key issue to be resolved is the sequencing on any requirement for public consultation for policies, deemed to represent a significant service change which may have a budget impact, and therefore, require

incorporation into the WHSSC prioritisation and ICP approval processes.

- **Neonatal Cot Configuration Project** - At the March 2023 meeting the JC requested that the WHSSC Director of Planning sought advice from the NHS Wales Directors of Planning (DoPs) Executive Peer Group on the best approach to the strategic planning for the second phase of the neonatal cot review, to ensure that the review fully addresses the interdependencies with non-WHSSC commissioned services such as maternity, and the Clinical Services Plans of Health Boards (HBs). A positive discussion was held with the DoPs in May where it was agreed that WHSSC should lead this planning, and that the DoPs should be involved in the design of Phase 2. This has been followed up with a factual briefing to the DoPs on Phase 1.

Members **noted** the report.

6. Future Commissioning of the Wales Neurophysiology Service

Members received a report outlining the process and timeline of the work that will be undertaken for WHSSC to return to commissioning Neurophysiology services in Wales.

Members noted that the NHS Wales Health Collaborative Executive Group (CEG) has formally requested that WHSSC return to commissioning Neurophysiology services in Wales.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Approved** the request for WHSSC to return to commissioning neurophysiology services from April 2024 onwards; and (3) **Supported** the proposed next steps and the work that will be undertaken to take this forward.

7. Sacral Nerve Stimulation (SNS) for Faecal and Urinary Incontinence in South Wales

Members received a report outlining the process and timeline of the work for WHSSC to take on the commissioning of Sacral Nerve Stimulation (SNS) for faecal incontinence and urinary incontinence in South Wales,

Members noted that the NHS Wales Health Collaborative Executive Group (CEG) has formally requested that WHSSC take on the commissioning of Sacral Nerve Stimulation (SNS) for faecal incontinence and urinary incontinence in South Wales.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Approved** the request for WHSSC to commission Sacral Nerve Stimulation (SNS); and (3) **Support** the proposed process and timeline of the work that will be undertaken to take this forward.

8. Update on Welsh Kidney Network (WKN) Governance Review

Members received a report presenting an update on the Welsh Kidney Network (WKN) Governance Review.

Members **noted** the update on the Welsh Kidney Network (WKN) governance review.

9. WHSSC Policy for Policies Review

Members received a report which considered the implications of issues raised during the WHSSC stakeholder consultation on Clinical Commissioning Policies CP37 (Pre-implantation Genetic Testing) and CP38 (Specialist Fertility Services: Assisted Reproductive Medicine) in relation to the WHSSC 'Policy for Policies' and wider policy development in NHS Wales.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Supported** the proposed next steps.

10. IPFR Engagement Update – All Wales Policy

A recommendation was made and approved that this item not be discussed.

11. Appointment Process for the Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel

A recommendation was made and approved that this item not be discussed.

12. Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF)

Members received a report presenting WHSSC's updated Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF) and outline the risks scoring 15 or above on the commissioning teams and directorate risk registers.

Members noted that as at 30 June 2023 there were 17 risks on the CRAF, 13 commissioning risks and 4 organisational risks.

Members (1) **Noted** the updated Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF) and changes to the risks outlined in this report as at 30 June 2023, (2) **Approved** the CRAF as at 30 June 2023, (3) **Noted** that the CRAF is presented to each Integrated Governance Committee, Quality & Patient Safety Committee, CTMUHB Audit & Risk Committee and the Risk Scrutiny Group (RSG) meetings; and (4) **Noted** that a desktop Risk Benchmarking exercise has been undertaken and the results were considered at the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) meeting on 13 June 2023.

13. Annual Committee Effectiveness Self-Assessment Results 2022-2023

Members received a report presenting an update to the Joint Committee on the actions from the annual Committee Effectiveness Self-Assessment undertaken in 2021-2022 and to present the results of the annual committee effectiveness self-assessment 2022-2023.

Members **(1) Noted** the completed actions made against the Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey 2021-2022 action plan, **(2) Noted** the results from the Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey for 2022-2023, **(3) Noted** that an update on the survey findings was presented to the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) Committee on the 13 June 2023, **(4) Noted** that the feedback will contribute to the development of a Joint Committee Development plan to map out a forward plan of development activities for the Joint Committee and its sub committees for 2023-2024; and **(5) Noted** the additional sources of assurance considered to obtain a broad view of the Committee's effectiveness.

14. WHSSC Annual Report 2022-2023

Members noted that the document will be sent to all members via email after the meeting for comment and subject to any further amendments for virtual approval. The document will be brought back to the September meeting under the corporate governance report to confirm approval.

Members **noted** the verbal update.

15. Declarations of Interest, Gifts, Hospitality and Sponsorship 2022-2023

Members received a report presenting an update on detail of the Declarations of Interest (DOI), Gifts, Hospitality and Sponsorship activities for the financial year 2022-2023.

Members (1) Noted the Declarations of Interest Register for 2022-2023, **(2) Noted** the Gifts, Hospitality and Sponsorship register for 2022-2023, **(3) Noted** that the Registers were presented and discussed at the Integrated Governance Committee meeting on 13 June 2023; and **(4) Received assurance** regarding the WHSSC Declarations of Interest (DOI), Gifts, Hospitality and Sponsorship process.

16. Performance & Activity Report Month 1 2023-2024

Members received a report providing a summary of the performance of WHSSC's commissioned services. Further detail including splits by resident Health Board (HB) was provided in an accompanying Power BI Dashboard report.

Members **noted** the report.

17. Financial Performance Report – Month 2 2023-2024

Members received the financial performance report setting out the financial position for WHSSC for month 2 2023-2024. The financial

position was reported against the 2023-2024 baselines following approval of the 2023-2026 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) by the Joint Committee in February 2023.

The year to date financial position reported at Month 2 for WHSSC an underspend of (£0.021m) and a break even forecast year-end position.

Members **noted** the contents of the report including the year to date financial position and forecast year-end position.

18. Financial Assurance Report

Members received a verbal update advising that the report would be discussed in the in committee session.

Members **noted** the verbal update.

19. South Wales Neonatal Transport Delivery Assurance Group Update Report

Members received a report providing a summary of the South Wales Neonatal Transport Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) Annual Report for 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Received assurance** that the Neonatal Transport service delivery and outcomes were being scrutinised by the Delivery Assurance Group (DAG).

20. Major Trauma Network Delivery Assurance Group Quarter 4 Update Report

Members received a report providing a summary of the Quarter 4 2022-23 Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) report of the South Wales Major Trauma Network (SWTN).

Members **noted** the South Wales Major Trauma Network (SMMTN) Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) Report.

21. All Wales PET Programme Progress Report

Members receive a report providing an update on the progress made by the All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Programme.

Members **noted** the progress made by the All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Programme and its associate projects and workstreams. The risk related to the availability of capital fundng was noted.

22. Efficiency and Recommissioning Programme Update

Members received a report providing an update on the Efficiency and Recommissioning programme enabled to realise the 1% savings requested by Joint Committee when signing off the 2023-24 Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP).

Members **noted** the report and the progress made.

23. 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.

24. Other reports

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

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

25. Any Other Business

- **Retirement of WHSSC Director of Finance** – members noted that it was Stuart Davies’ last Joint Committee meeting following announcing his retirement. Members thanked him for his stalwart contribution and commitment to developing specialised commissioning in Wales and wished him every success in future.

