



CORE BRIEF TO MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERS

MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2019

This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and decision. It aims to ensure the Management Group members have a common core brief to disseminate within their organisation.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting and Action Log

The Minutes from the meetings held on 28 November 2019 were noted.

Members noted the action log and received updates on:

- **MG123** – South Wales Replacement Wheelchair Programme – WHSST due to meet with the service the following week. Carried forward to Jan 2020.
- **MG160** – WHSSC Policy Group: Policy audits – SL to re-visit HTW to determine whether resource might now be available, following its recent recruitment campaign. Carried forward to Jan 2020.
- **MG172** – 2020-23 ICP: Public Health input – SL scheduled to attend LHB directors of public health meeting. Carried forward to Jan 2020.
- **MG172** - 2020-23 ICP: Update paragraph on CF – insufficient information received from provider. Carried forward Jan 2020.
- **MG173** – Update on CHD Investment: Report required on reasons for outreach clinics not reaching expected activity levels – Information received, report to follow. Carried forward to Jan 2020.
- **MG175** – CVUHB Plan for tertiary services - Feedback received and WHSSC response issued. Action closed 12 Dec 2019.
- **MG177** – CHC Change form regarding ECP outreach service from Bristol – Form circulated. Action closed 9 Dec 2019.
- **MG178** – 2020-23 ICP Update – ATMP paper for IMs carried forward to Feb 2020.
- **MG179** – Redesign of cardiac pathway: CTMUHB Board paper – JK to circulate shortly (during Dec 2019).
- **MG181** – Major Trauma operational readiness – oral update provided on recruitment of three consultants and network manager; paper to follow. Carried forward to Jan 2020.
- **MG183** – Perinatal Mental Health: concerns regarding level of escalated costs for provision of two extra beds to be raised with

provider – Discussions continuing with welsh Government about overall proposition. Carried forward to Jan 2020.

WHSSC Strategy SL reported that progress on the WHSSC strategy for specialised services had been delayed because engagement with LHB boards was a crucial step and arranging meetings to facilitate this had proven very difficult. Several meetings had now taken place with CTMUHB and SBUHB scheduled for 19 December. The output would be brought to Management Group. It was noted that LHBs also needed to engage with their providers of specialised services not commissioned by WHSSC to develop their own strategies.

2020-23 Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) It was noted that Welsh Government's position on funding Major Trauma, ATMPs and IMTPs in general was anticipated to be shared the following week. An extraordinary Joint Committee meeting had been scheduled for 6 January 2020 to consider the ICP in this context. The next scheduled Management Group meeting was 23 January 2020 and a routine Joint Committee meeting was scheduled for 28 January 2020. A Management Group workshop was scheduled for February 2020 to consider further savings, including pathway savings, associated with specialised services. It was suggested that the ICP should include a description of other prospective savings that would be investigated during 2020-21 but were insufficiently certain to quantify in the Plan. There was currently no appetite from members for de-commissioning of services to achieve cost savings. SD explained that increases in Welsh specialised services investment consistently fell behind those in NHS England and that activity growth continued to increase, making decisions on savings very difficult; it was agreed that consideration of a policy approach to this was a matter for Joint Committee.

3. Report from the Managing Director

Members received the Managing Director's report, which included:

- **South Wales BMT Service** The service had been taken out of escalation.
- **Bridgend Boundary Change** CTMUHB and SBUHB were continuing to work together to disengage the services affected by the boundary change.

Members noted the contents of the report.

4. Cardiac Surgery Performance

Members received a paper that provided an update on cardiac surgery performance in south Wales. In summary it was noted that the performance at both centres was poor and that the only way to avoid further 36 week breaches was outsourcing but that the approach would be led by the providers and would be informed by the previous cardiac surgery outsourcing exercise.

Members noted the information presented within the report.

5. Paediatric Activity Blades

Members received a paper that informed them of the funding provided by Welsh Government for paediatric activity blades and requested approval for implementing the commissioning of this new prosthetic activity. Concern was noted regarding the access implications for patients as they matured to adults. It was agreed that this was a good Welfare of Future Generations example for specialised services and that some patient stories should be captured.

Members noted the funding provided by Welsh Government for paediatric activity blades and approved the proposed commissioning arrangements for this additional prosthetic activity.

6. Paediatric MRI

Members received a paper that provided information regarding the release of funding to implement the ICP Scheme for paediatric MRI capacity. Members raised questions regarding the detail of the proposal, including (1) clarification regarding access for all south Wales health boards, (2) what is driving demand, by speciality, and (3) whether transfers of service are required, so that all south Wales paediatric MRIs are commissioned by WHSSC. A further iteration of the paper will be presented to the January 2020 meeting.

7. WHSSC Policy Group Update

Members received a paper on the work of the WHSSC Policy Group and noted the information presented within the report.

8. Integrated Performance Report

Members received a report on the performance of services commissioned by WHSSC for October 2019 and noted the services in escalation and actions being undertaken to address areas of non-compliance.

In particular it was noted that cardiac and plastic surgery performance in south Wales were deteriorating but thoracic surgery performance had improved. The seventh PICU bed had opened. Cochlear implants were being carried out at UHW, Cardiff, following closure of the service at POW hospital in Bridgend. RTT performance in the cleft lip and palate service had improved.

9. Finance Report 2019-20 Month 8

Members received an oral report on the financial position for WHSSC for the eighth month of 2019-20 being an under spend of £4.3m and forecast underspend of £3.4m for the full year.

10. Other business

South Wales Immunology Service The RCP had been unable to approve the facility at its recent QIPS inspection, so would schedule a re-visit. CVUHB was looking to address the related facilities issues. A

nursing resource issue had also been identified. A paper would be brought to Management Group.

Proton Beam Therapy NHS England has identified a significant increase in paediatric indications for PBT and was increasing its capacity. NHSE was also trialling new indications and had requested participation Welsh patients; it was understood to be likely that these would be funded by a research source rather than the NHS.

Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust (SaTH) It was noted that SaTH was already in special measures and that inspectors had visited again and identified further issues in the Emergency Department.

