



CORE BRIEF TO MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERS

MEETING HELD ON 20 AUGUST 2020

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 noting that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was being held via MS Teams with a consent agenda. It was noted that a quorum had been achieved.

Written questions from members and answers had been published in advance of the meeting and had been embedded within the meeting papers.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting and Action Log

The Minutes from the meetings held on 16 July 2020 were noted and approved.

Members noted the action log and received updates on:

- **MG199** - Bridgend Cochlear Service Update – A meeting had been held with CTMUHB and a proposal received to transfer the service to Cardiff. A meeting had been arranged to discuss this with the Board of the CHCs. Health board engagement leads would be involved as appropriate.
- **MG215** - ICP 2020-23: Drop off in activity levels – Agenda item 2.11. Action closed.
- **MG219** - Outsourcing for Cardiac Surgery: Introductions to Stoke Hospital, etc. Action complete.
- **MG220** - Recovery of transplantation services: Reports to be circulated – SD had circulated the high level activity reports. Action closed.

3. Managing Director's Report

The Managing Director's report, including updates on ICP 2021-24 and funding of in year service risks was taken as read.

4. Five Year Commissioning Strategy for Paediatric Services

Members received a paper that provided the proposed scope for the development of a 5 year Commissioning Strategy for Paediatric Services.

Members noted (1) the investments to date in paediatric services; (2) the risks in Paediatric Services at the Children's Hospital for Wales; (3) the potential efficiencies and repatriation of services from Alder Hey Children's Hospital to North Wales; and (5) supported the development of a five year Commissioning Strategy for Paediatric Services.

5. Paediatric Neurology Services – South Wales Region

Members received a paper that provided an overview on the current provision of Paediatric Neurology services across the south Wales region and the ongoing risks to its sustainability. It set out the vision for the service and outlined a number of proposals for stabilising the service including developing a managed clinical network for Paediatric Neurology across south Wales.

Members noted (1) the associated risks with current delivery model for the Paediatric Neurology service across the south Wales region; (2) the long term strategic approach for the service; and (3) supported the proposals for stabilising the service in principle, including the development of a managed clinical network, subject to sight of detailed proposals.

6. Paediatric Gastroenterology in-year risk

Members received a paper that sought approval for in-year funding to mitigate the risks to the current fragile paediatric gastroenterology service.

Members noted the current fragility within the service; and supported in-year funding (which was included within the ICP 2020-23) to mitigate the risk and improve access for patients.

7. TAVI Management of Severe Aortic Stenosis during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Members received a paper the purpose of which was (1) to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the management of severe aortic stenosis; and (2) agree the short term commissioning arrangements for TAVI during the pandemic.

Members (1) noted the information and risks presented within the report; (2) supported, in principle, a short term change to the current TAVI policy to include the intermediate risk patient group during COVID-19 and providers submitting a monthly report to WHSSC outlining the activity undertaken and how prioritisation has been made for the high and intermediate risk patients. However, there was a split between commissioner and provider members on the funding arrangements for the proposed short term change to policy, so it was decided to refer the matter to Joint Committee for a final decision.

8. Adult Congenital Heart Disease: Delivery of a safe and sustainable service

Members received a paper that sought approval for the release of funding to implement the Integrated Commissioning Plan scheme for the development of Adult Congenital Heart Disease Service (Phase 2) in south Wales (ICP19-278).

Members approved the release of funding implement the Integrated Commissioning Plan scheme for the development of Adult Congenital Heart Disease Service (Phase 2) in south Wales (ICP19-278).

9. BCUHB Specialist Services Providers

Members received a paper that informed them of the current level of specialist services provision for the population of north Wales and the ongoing work to monitor specialist service provision throughout the pandemic for the population of north Wales.

Members noted the information presented within the report and the ongoing work with BCUHB and NHS England providers in the north-west to monitor the delivery of specialist services during the pandemic.

10. PET New Indications for 2020-21

Members received a paper that set out the implementation of the new PET indications ICP scheme for 2020-21.

Members noted (1) the implementation of the new PET indications ICP scheme; (2) that it was anticipated that no new funding was required in 2020-21 to implement the scheme; (3) that the implementation of the scheme would support the response to COVID-19 related harm; and (4) that the revised PET policy had been approved by AWPET, ratified by the Chair of WHSSC Policy Group and published on the WHSSC website.

11. Funding request for the south and mid Wales Clinical Immunology Service

Members received a paper that provided an update on the south and mid Wales Immunology Service's Royal College of Physicians Quality in Primary Immunodeficiency Services assessment and the investment required to enable the service to achieve the three key actions required for accreditation.

Members (1) noted the outcome of the recent assessment report on the Quality in Primary Immunodeficiency Services at CVUHB; and (2) supported the outlined additional investment to the service to enable them to achieve accreditation.

12. Prosthetics Service – Swansea Bay University Health Board

Members received a paper that sought support for additional funding to be provided to the Prosthetics service provided by SBUHB in order to mitigate the immediate risks highlighted in the ICP 2020-23.

Members supported the request for additional funding for the Prosthetic Service provided by SBUHB in order to mitigate the immediate risks highlighted in the 2020-23 Integrated Commissioning Plan.

13. Proposed Performance Assurance Framework

Members received a paper that set out a proposed new commissioner performance assurance recognising that in the COVID-19 environment performance assurance needed to be greater than the traditional measurement. It also set out a revised commissioner relationship.

The Framework had been shared to generate discussion and will be socialised with members of Management Group, the WHSS Team, All Wales Directors of Planning to discuss in Health Boards, and Welsh Government officials to align with the framework likely to be mandated at a national level, prior to a final discussion with Joint Committee. It is expected that this Framework will sit alongside the WHSSC ICP for 2021 and beyond.

Members noted and discussed the content of the report and KP undertook to set up a series of calls with members to discuss the Framework further outside of the meeting.

14. Activity Report for Quarter 1 2020-21 COVID-19 Period

Members received a paper that highlighted the scale of the decrease in activity levels during the peak COVID-19 period and identify whether there were any signs of recovery in specialised services activity. The activity decreases were shown in the context of the potential risk of patient harms and of the loss of value from nationally agreed financial block contract arrangements.

Members noted the information presented within the report and it was agreed to continue reporting this information, initially to Month 6 2020-21.

15. WHSSC Policy Group: Update

Members received a paper that provided an update on the work of the WHSSC Policy Group.

Members noted the information presented within the report.

16. Shrewsbury & Telford NHS Hospital Trust (SaTH)

Members were advised that University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (UHB) had entered an Improvement Alliance with SaTH to provide leadership expertise that will support SaTH to offer clinically safe and sustainable patient services.

