

## **WELSH HEALTH SPECIALISED SERVICES COMMITTEE (WHSSC) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING BRIEFING – 12 JULY 2022**

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee held its latest public meeting on the 12 July 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 10 May 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. Recovery Trajectories across NHS Wales**

Members received informative presentations on the recovery trajectories across Wales from the NHS Wales Delivery Unit, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB (BCUHB), Swansea Bay UHB (SBUHB) and Cardiff & Vale (CVUHB).

Members **noted** the presentations and requested that an update on the trajectories for paediatric recovery be brought to the next meeting.

### **4. Chair's Report**

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

- No Chair's actions had been taken since the last meeting,
- An update on the letter issued to NHS Chairs requesting support in appointing an interim HB chair for the All Wales Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel for a 6 month period from amongst their Independent Members (IMs) to ensure business continuity,
- An update on plans for the recruitment process to fill the WHSSC IM vacancy,
- Attendance at the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) meeting on the 7 June 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 on:

- Discussions with Welsh Government (WG) concerning the All Wales IPFR Panel and the authority of the Joint Committee to update and approve the panel's Terms Of Reference (ToR), the governance process for updating the All Wales IPFR policy, the briefings given to the Board Secretaries on the 10 June 2022, and to the All Wales Medical Directors Group (AWMDG) on the 1 July 2022 and that a letter confirming next steps was awaited from WG,
- The revised timeline for the draft Mental Health Specialised Services Strategy 2022-2028 engagement process,
- The funding for Cell Path Labs to meet the growing demand for commissioned WHSCC cancer genomic testing; and
- The designation of SBUHB as a provider of Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy (SABR).

Members **noted** the report.

## **6. Neonatal Transport – Update from the Delivery Assurance Group (DAG)**

Members received a report providing an update from the Neonatal Transport Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) meeting held on 21 June 2022.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Received** assurance that Neonatal Transport was being scrutinised by the Delivery Assurance Group (DAG), (3) **Noted** that further work was being undertaken by the transport service on the reporting to strengthen the assurance; and (4) **Noted** the update on the implementation of the Neonatal Transport Operational Delivery Network (ODN).

## **7. Draft Specialised Paediatric Services 5 year Commissioning Strategy**

Members received a report presenting the Draft Specialised Paediatric Services 5 year Commissioning Strategy for information and which sought support to share the strategy through a 6 week engagement process to obtain stakeholder feedback.

Members (1) **Noted** the contents of the draft Specialised Paediatric Services 5 year Commissioning Strategy; and (2) **Supported** that the Strategy be issued for a 6 week engagement process to obtain stakeholder feedback, prior to the final version being presented to the Joint for Committee for approval in September 2022.

## **8. South Wales Cochlear Implant and BAHA Hearing Implant Device Service**

Members received a report presenting the process and outcome of a

recent review of tertiary auditory services and the planned next steps for the South Wales Cochlear Implant and BAHA Hearing Implant Device Service.

Members discussed the preferred commissioning option and agreed that the report be updated with more detail on the process undertaken to agree the preferred option for engagement, and that the report be presented the next Management Group meeting for review prior to being brought back to the Joint Committee either virtually or at an extraordinary committee meeting.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Noted** and **received assurance** on the assessment process inclusive of a) clinical options appraisal, b) external review against standards and c) financial option appraisal, (3) **Noted** the outcome of the clinical options appraisal for the south Wales centres, the external hearing implant centre and the financial appraisal, (4) **Noted** the preferred commissioning option as the basis of engagement/consultation; and **agreed** a review of the process at the Management Group meeting on the 28 July 2022 and for reconsideration of the proposals either virtually or at a future extra-ordinary meeting of the JC; and (5) **Agreed** to receive the required engagement/consultation documentation and process at the September meeting of the Joint Committee.

## **9. Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) Services for Wales**

Members received a report providing a summary on the Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) surgery project for South and West Wales, and which sought support for the proposed arrangements to provide assurance to the WHSSC Joint Committee as the future commissioners for the service.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Supported** the Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) surgery Project Initiation Document (PID) and Action Plan Tracker; and (3) **Supported** the proposals to receive assurance that the outputs of the Hepato- Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) project align with the WHSSC strategic objectives and commissioning intentions.

## **10. Policy for Policies & EQIA Policy**

Members received a report presenting feedback from the stakeholder consultation on the revised WHSSC 'Policy for Policies' Policy and the new Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) policy, and which sought approval for publishing both documents.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Supported** the rationale and process that had been applied when updating the WHSSC 'Policy for Policies' Policy and developing the new EQIA policy; and (3) **Approved** the request to publish the WHSSC 'Policy for Policies' Policy and EQIA Policy following stakeholder consultation.

### **11. Policy Position for the Commissioning of Drugs and Treatments for Patients aged between 16 and 18 years of age**

Members received a report seeking support from the Joint Committee on the preferred policy position for the commissioning of drugs and treatments for patients aged between 16 and 18 years of age.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Supported** the preferred option identified within the report.

### **12. Supporting Ukrainian Refugees with Complex Health Needs**

Members received a report setting out a proposal for managing the complex health needs of Ukrainian refugees arriving in Wales and seeking approval to manage the excess costs (>£20k per annum) within the current funding baselines in year, offsetting against non-recurrent slippage and reserves.

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Approved** the proposal to manage the excess costs within the current funding baselines in year, offsetting against non-recurrent slippage and reserves.

### **13. Name Change Welsh Renal Clinical Network (WRCN)**

Members received a report informing the Joint Committee of the outcome of the engagement process to consider a change of the name of the Welsh Renal Clinical Network (WRCN) and to ratify the decision of the WRCN Board to change the name to the Welsh Kidney Network.

Members (1) **Noted** the outcome of the engagement process to seek views to change the name of the Welsh Renal Clinical Network (WRCN); and (2) **Ratified** the decision of the WRCN Board to change the name of the WRCN to the "Welsh Kidney Network".

### **14. Results of the Annual Committee Effectiveness Self-Assessment 2021 -2022 & Joint Committee Development Plan**

Members received a report presenting an update on the actions from the annual Committee Effectiveness Self-Assessment undertaken in 2020-2021 and to present the results of the annual committee effectiveness self-assessment 2021-2022.

Members (1) **Noted** the completed actions made against the Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey 2020-2021 action plan, (2) **Noted** the results from the Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey for 2021-2022, (3) **Noted** that the findings were considered by the Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) on the 7 June 2022, (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 2022-2023; and (5) **Noted** the additional sources of assurance considered to obtain a broad view of the Committee's effectiveness.

## **15. Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF)**

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

Members (1) **Noted** the updated Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF) as at 31 May 2022, (2) **Approved** the Corporate Risk Assurance Framework (CRAF); and (3) **Noted** that a follow up risk management workshop was planned for the 20 September 2022 to review how the Risk management process is working, and to consider risk appetite and tolerance levels across the organisation.

## **16. All Wales IPFR Panel Sub-Committee Annual Report 2021-2022**

Members received a report presenting the All Wales IPFR Panel Annual Report 2021-2022.

Members **noted** the All Wales IPFR Panel Annual Report 2021-2022.

## **17. COVID-19 Period Activity Report for Month 1 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.

## **18. Financial Performance Report – Month 2 2022-2023**

Members received the financial performance report setting out the financial position for WHSSC for month 2 2022-2023. The financial position was reported against the 2022-2023 baselines following approval of the 202-2023 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) by the Joint Committee in February 2022.

The financial position reported at Month 2 for WHSSC was a year-end outturn forecast under spend of £515k.

Members **noted** the report.

## **19. 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.

## **20. 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).

## 21. AOB

- **WHSSC Specialised Services Strategy** – Members noted that work had commenced to plan the engagement process for developing the WHSSC Specialised Services Strategy and that a workshop would be held at the Joint Committee on the 6 September 2022.

