

Performance Governance Committee Assurance Report to Grampian NHS Board

Purpose of Report

This report summarises the key matters considered by the Committee under the governance arrangements approved by the Board. In line with the revised arrangements, the business of the Committee has been focused on the key matters in relation to performance governance relevant to the Board's response during the period of COVID-19 and the implementation of the remobilisation plan.

This report covers the Committee meeting held on 20 October 2021.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the following key points and assurances from the Committee:

Performance

Prior to considering the formal performance and finance reports the members had a discussion, facilitated by the Head of Health Intelligence, regarding the development of a broader range of metrics and data which would align to the new NHS Grampian strategy and focus on evidencing progress against outcome measures with a current and future focus. It was agreed that further work would be undertaken with the aim of implementing a new set of metrics aligned to the priorities that will be directed locally by our strategy, in addition to the national priorities for NHS Scotland.

The members scrutinised the position in relation to performance against the national standards and sought assurances regarding actions that were being taken. Matters that were highlighted included

(1) performance had for both Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and Psychological Therapy services remained positive with performance above 90% for both services. The additional Scottish Government funding allocated to increase capacity has been welcomed and plans are in progress to recruit to posts which will enhance resilience and to meet the expected increase in demand.

(2) that due to the impact of wider system pressures the waiting list for elective care treatment had continued to rise for all categories of patient within the Clinical Prioritisation and Escalation System, including cancer. The members noted the challenges facing the remobilisation of elective care including the impact of rising unscheduled care levels in the context of reduced bed capacity across Grampian.

(3) the waiting list for a first outpatient appointment has continued to stabilise with the percentage of patients in Grampian waiting over 26 weeks below the national average; and

(4) performance against the 4 hour emergency department standard has continued to decrease reflecting the pressures within ARI and across the whole health and care system. The members noted that performance across Scotland was significantly lower than would be anticipated at this time of year. The members also noted that the three health and social care partnerships and Scottish Ambulance Services were supporting changes at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and in the community to improve access and flow for unscheduled care activity.

The members requested updates on progress against the actions being taken in respect of the above and acknowledged the significant efforts of staff given the challenges that the current situation was presenting.

Finance position at end of September 2021

The Committee received a presentation on the finance position at the mid year point. The key points noted were:

- The financial position in September was an overspend of £1.22 million for the month. This gives a year to date overspend of £4.18 million at the halfway point of the year.
- Based on the overspends incurred for the last quarter, the Director of Finance will work with Scottish Government colleagues to clarify what support can be provided to enable the Board to manage the financial position this year in light of the current and projected operational pressures on services.
- Covid spend remains at £4-5 million a month (£28 million incurred for year to date). It is expected that additional Covid related costs will be fully funded this year by the Scottish Government. There are still just over 1,000 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff employed on Covid workstreams.

The financial pressures on the core budget position can largely be attributed to two main factors:-

- medical staffing budgets, which are now overspent by £3.06 million for the year to date. Medical staffing numbers have increased since the start of the year, but we are still incurring significant costs for locum staff and excess banding payments for junior medical staff.
- several areas of non-pay costs, including medical supplies, service contracts, energy and maintenance costs have contributed to the overspend by £2.74 million for the year to date.

Baird and ANCHOR projects

The members scrutinised the Directors Report in relation to the above projects and would highlight the following:

- The construction of the ANCHOR Centre and the Baird Family Hospital are both broadly on programme. The members noted that the Project Board were however reviewing the overall programme to re-assess given the challenges facing the supply chain and maintaining the design programme in line with the timetable.
- Progress against the Design Programme was explained and the members noted the complexity of the work and that the outcome of the programme review will be presented to the Committee in the first quarter of 2022.

Sustainability

The members received a comprehensive update on the Board's sustainability programme from the Head of Sustainability, Compliance & Risk – Facilities. The presentation set out the priority being taken to addressing climate change and noted the following

- Revised target for net zero for health facilities to 2038 and building warrants will require all new buildings to be net zero from 2024.
- Draft Policy for NHS Scotland on the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development (a replacement for CEL2 (2012)) being developed.
- Scottish Government Sustainability Strategy due to be published for consultation to coincide with COP26.

The members welcomed the update, acknowledged the significant programme of work being progressed and that this would remain a priority area of focus for the Committee and the Board.

Remobilisation Plan

The Committee received an update on the actions that were included in Remobilisation Plan (v3) and due for implementation by 31 October 2021. The members noted the significant progress that had been made and wished to acknowledge the cross system working that is being undertaken across Grampian.

Matters referred to other Board Committees

Whilst, there were no matters referred to any other Board Committee the members noted the requirement for a continued co-ordinated approach to the monitoring of the implementation of the remobilisation plan across the individual committees of the Board.

Rhona Atkinson
Chair, Performance Governance Committee

Attachment: Agenda of Performance Governance Committee meeting of 20 October 2021

NHS Grampian
Performance Governance Committee
Wednesday 20th October 2021 – 14.00 to 16.00
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)

Agenda

1.	Welcome and Apologies		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting – 18 th August 2021 (any matters arising)		*
3.	Items for Discussion		
12	3.1	Performance Summary in Relation to National Standards	*
30	3.2	Finance Report	*
49	3.3	Baird and ANCHOR – Project Directors Report	*
74	3.4	Remobilisation Plan – Milestones Progress Report	*
84	3.5	Sustainability Group – Progress Report	*
4.	Matters to Highlight to Board		#
	Committee Dates 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 16th February • Wednesday 20th April • Wednesday 15th June • Wednesday 17th August • Wednesday 19th October • Wednesday 21st December 		
	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 15th December 2021 14.00		

* Paper attached

Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson