

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 Operation Iris.

This report covers the Committee meeting held on 16 December 2021.

Recommendation

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

Performance

The members scrutinised two reports in relation to the current system pressures and performance against the national standards and sought assurances regarding actions that were being taken. The key matters arising from the scrutiny of these reports is summarised below:

- (1) continued challenges at the front door of Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, with performance below the predicted levels in the Board remobilisation plan and ongoing issues regarding effective transfer of patients from ambulances on arrival. The Committee sought assurances that actions were being taken to understand and address the issues that were impacting on flow within and out from the department and requested that a further report be presented at the February meeting on the progress with the plans and additional capacity that is being implemented.
- (2) the system wide challenges and higher than normal levels of occupancy and demand across all services, including the increasing challenges in maintaining support for care packages in community and home settings. The Committee noted the positive position regarding whole system working and that the Grampian delayed discharge position was amongst the lowest per population in NHS Scotland. The Committee were re-assured as to the steps that were being implemented to manage our unscheduled care pathways in anticipation of winter pressures in the coming months and potential impact of a further Omicron COVID wave during this period.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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
- (5) the Committee welcomed the ongoing positive position in relation to access to Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and that our activity within the department was higher than had been predicted.

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 30 November 2021

The Committee received a presentation on the finance position at the end of November point. The key points noted were:

- An overspend of £5.48m against revenue budget after 8 months, with a £1.0m overspend for the month of November 2021. This is in line with the core overspends per month in the prior quarter.
- Scottish Government have confirmed that Boards & IJBs will be supported to meet financial targets this year.
- The overspend continues to be attributable to medical pay (locum costs and backdated junior medical non-compliance costs) and non-pay (medical supplies, equipment, maintenance). During November there was an increase in nurse staff numbers as new graduates joined.
- Monthly spend on COVID related activities has been steady at £4-5m a month (£38m YTD), with the main elements being vaccination programme, contact tracing, testing and additional staff input (overtime & excess hours).

The members were provided with an update on the outcome of the draft Scottish Government budget and noted that all Board members had been provided with a briefing from the Director and Deputy Director of Finance. The Committee noted the outcome and the initial feedback from the Director and Deputy Director of Finance regarding the challenges that the Board would require to consider in setting the budget for 2022/23. A further update regarding the 2022/23 position would be considered by the Committee in February prior to the budget being presented to the Board in either April or June.

Baird and ANCHOR projects

The members scrutinised the Directors Report in relation to the above projects:

As reported to the Board, the project cost and construction programme of the ANCHOR Centre and the Baird Family Hospital were both under review given the challenges facing the supply chain, market forces and maintaining the design programme in line with the timetable. The Committee will be provided with an update at the February meeting and a formal report presented at the April 2022 Board meeting.

Committee role during Operation Iris

The members discussed the role of the Committee during Operation Iris and there was support to focus the agenda on performance (specific in relation to position against the Operation Iris objectives and RMP4), finance and the Baird and ANCHOR project.

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 16 December 2021

**NHS Grampian
Performance Governance Committee
Wednesday 16th December 2021 – 10.00 – 12.00
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 20th October 2021
3. Items for Discussion:
 - 3.1 Finance Report
 - 3.2 Scottish Government – draft budget and initial planning 2022/23
 - 3.3 Performance Summary (Combined Health System Pressures report and comparison with national standards)
 - 3.4 Baird and ANCHOR project directors report
 - 3.5 Committee role during Operation Iris
4. Matters to highlight to the Board

* Paper attached
Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson

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