

Performance Governance Committee Assurance Report to Grampian NHS Board

1. Purpose of Report

This report covers the Committee meeting held on 20 April 2022 and 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. Operation Iris has been extended beyond the intended end date of 31 March 2022.

2. Recommendation

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

3. Performance:

The members scrutinised the system pressures report and the summary of progress against the remobilisation plan (v4) performance trajectories and milestones. The key matters arising from the scrutiny of these reports is summarised below:

3.1 The system wide challenges and higher than normal levels of occupancy continue. The Committee noted the continuing challenge to achieve consistency with Emergency Departments' (ED) performance, which serves as a proxy measure for capacity across our entire Grampian system. This is despite the significant collaborative system-wide working developments which continue to develop positively in response.

3.2 Maintaining access for emergency surgery and planned elective surgery for priority patients continues. However, the Committee noted the continuing mismatch between demand and capacity resulting in waiting lists, including for cancer, continuing to grow. The members noted the discussion related to this at the recent Board meeting on 7 April 2022.

3.3 The members noted the progress against RMP4 milestones. Following approval at the Board meeting on the 3 February 2022, this quarterly summary has been submitted to the Scottish Government. The latest quarterly update on progress against RMP4 plan will be submitted to Chief Executive Team meeting on Tuesday 26th April 2022.

3.4 In relation to continuing efforts to improve staff safety and well-being, the Committee noted the results of the Best Practice Australia (BPA) Culture Survey (first phase) was shared with CET on 19th April 2022 and this will provide new, detailed information, enabling further focus to improve the experience and well-being of colleagues.

In summary; the Committee noted the demand across the whole system, challenges the ability to meet the three Operation Iris objectives consistently. It is known the

pressures are impacting on the experiences of people in receipt of care or awaiting care, and the experience of colleagues giving care.

The Committee agreed that it was assured that the system was managing and mitigating the risks as best it can in the current circumstances.

4. Finance position at 31 March 2022

The Committee received a presentation on the draft finance position at the 31 March 2022. It was noted the year-end position is still to be finalised. The key points noted were:

4.1 Spend in the last quarter has been higher than forecast but Scottish Government will support NHS Grampian to meet financial targets and have confirmed additional costs will be fully funded for 2021/22. There was higher spend incurred due to the impact of surge wards to deal with Covid and winter pressures with high levels of agency staffing being used to staff the wards. There was also an increase in the Untaken Annual Leave reflecting staff carrying forward a higher level of unused annual leave into the 2022/23 financial year.

4.2 Total spend for the year on NHSG services (excluding HSCPs) was £68.5m.

The main elements of the Covid spend were on the following:

- a. Vaccination Programme
- b. PPE
- c. Additional staff input (overtime & excess hours)
- d. Contact tracing & testing
- e. Infection Prevention (including cleaning)

4.3 The position of funding and planning assumptions for 2022/23 remain unclear. Key points on the projected financial position for 2022/23 are:

- a. One year (22/23) Finance Plan submitted to Scottish Government in March and updated to Board in April.
- b. NHS Grampian is facing a financial gap next year, after assuming 1% savings target.
- c. The financial challenge is a combination of underlying overspends and new cost pressures offset by new funding confirmed from the Scottish Government budget.
- d. £5m to be invested in new service commitments – prioritisation being undertaken by Chief Executive Team budget setting group.
- e. Integrated Joint Boards likely to have significant reserves at the end of March 2022.
- f. There are potential risks around pay awards (yet to be nationally negotiated), gas prices and Covid funding assumptions.

The Committee members discussed and noted the above. Clarity on 2022/2023 financial position anticipated to be received by July 2022. A further update regarding 2022/2023 would be considered by the Committee at its meeting June 2022.

5. Future remit & function for this Committee

The Committee, as part of the review underway of all Committees of the Board, considered and discussed the proposed renewed draft terms of reference.

The members acknowledged that the three-fold remit of this Committee - performance assurance, finance and infrastructure - is a broad agenda. However, it was agreed achieving assurance was achievable with structured processes and work planning.

6. 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, 24 May 2022

Attached: Agenda of Performance Governance Committee meeting of 20 April 2022
NHS Grampian

**Performance Governance Committee
Wednesday 20th April 2022 – 10.00 to 12.00
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

Agenda

Item	Timing		Lead	Ref
1.	10.00-10.05	Welcome and Apologies		RA #
2.	10.05-10.10	Minutes of Previous Meeting – 16 th February 2022 (any matters arising)		RA *
3.	10.10-11.55	Items for Discussion		
	10.10-10.30	3.1	Finance Report	AS #
	10.30-10.50	3.2	Performance Summary	JE *
	10.50-11.50	3.3	Future remit & function for this committee 3.3.a Presentation of current thinking for discussion and contributions	RA KD/SD/JE *
4.	11.50 -12.00	Matters to Highlight to Board		RA #
5.		Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 15th June 2022 – 1400 to 1600		RA #

* Paper attached

Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson

Apologies to: Pamela Wight pamela.wight@nhs.scot

15th April 2022