

NHS Grampian Annual Report 2013/14

Introduction

The NHS Board is required to publish an Annual Report to account to the community it serves and to other stakeholders for key aspects of its performance during the year and to give an account of its stewardship. The Annual Report is usually produced following the receipt of a letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport documenting the outcome of the Board's Annual Review meeting. The 2013/14 Annual Review was scheduled to take place on 17th November 2014, however due to the imminent retirement of the Chief Executive and the resignation of the Board Chairman, the Cabinet Secretary postponed the 2013/14 Annual Review until 12th January 2015. The outcome of the review was subsequently captured in a letter from Shona Robison MSP in February 2015. It follows that this Annual Report is published considerably later than usual.

Given the timing of the Annual Review, discussion at the public and private meetings was not restricted to the 2013/14 year. There was instead considerable focus on actions being implemented in response to the Health Improvement Scotland review of quality and safety at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Health Improvement Scotland unannounced inspection of the care of older people in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Woodend Hospital and the Royal College of Surgeons of England invited review of the ARI general surgery department. It was noted that an Immediate Action Plan had been produced and was being implemented and that a comprehensive Improvement Programme would be produced following a period of consultation. The Improvement Programme which was approved by the Board in April 2015 has range of actions that will ensure that NHS Grampian's corporate, health and healthcare strategy is fit for the future, and that service delivery meets the requirements of the people of Grampian and Scottish Government policy.

Annual Review

At the Annual Review public session the Cabinet Secretary acknowledged the dedication of NHS staff in Grampian as well as the world class facilities available to support the provision of healthcare. She repeated the Scottish Government's intention to continue to provide support for improvement and noted a positive commitment to change throughout the Board. She was pleased to hear that the Board's clear focus was on patient safety, positive patient experience, partnership working, effective governance and rigorous performance management.

A number of questions from members of the public on a wide range of topics were answered.

At the private session the Cabinet Secretary addressed NHS Grampian's performance against a number of national standards and targets including access times for cancer treatment some of which were continuing to be challenging due to particular pressures within the urology, lung, head and neck and colorectal pathways. Plans for improving performance against the 12 week Treatment Time Guarantee were also discussed as was the close working with Local Authority partners and independent sector colleagues to increase community capacity to reduce the number of people for whom hospital discharge is delayed. Despite the challenges facing NHS Grampian, it was acknowledged that the Board achieved all 3 of its financial targets in 2013/14 i.e. to operate within its Revenue Resource Limit, Capital Resource Limit and to meet its Cash Requirement.

Further Information

Further information can be found on the NHS Grampian website www.nhsgrampian.org. This includes:

- The full annual review self-assessment completed by NHS Grampian
- The letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport summarising the outcome of the Annual Review day.
- A video of the Annual Review public meeting.
- The Annual Accounts for 2013/2014.
- The Grampian Healthfit 2020 vision
- How to get involved in working with us to plan for the future.

If you would like more information on specific issues and initiatives, or on how to get involved in planning health services in Grampian, please contact:

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Useful contacts

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Dental Advice line 0845 456 5990