



CORE BRIEF TO SPECIALISED SERVICES MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERS

MEETING HELD ON 25 JULY 2024

This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and decision. It aims to ensure the Specialised Services Management Group (MG) members have a common core brief to disseminate within their organisation.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting noting the apologies.

2. Action Log

Members received an update on progress against the action log and noted the updates. A verbal update was provided on work to develop a new sub-committee structure for the JCC. Members noted that further details will be discussed at the JCC development session in August 2024 and that a report will be brought back to the JCC for approval in September 2024.

3. Plastic Surgery South Wales – Revised Ministerial Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Members received a report and presentation outlining the options in relation to achieving the Welsh Government key performance indicators (KPIs) in 2024/2025 for the plastic surgery service for South Wales provided by Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB). Members noted that the report had been presented to the JCC on 16 July 2024 and the JCC approved Option 2 whilst the financial framework to meet the target is further considered but requested urgent further due diligence by the JCC Specialised Services Management Group.

Members noted that the waiting list and waiting times for plastic surgery had increased and that some patients were waiting in excess of the 104 weeks WG waiting time target. Members also noted that the WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) for 2024/25 did not include funding above the SLA baseline to achieve the then 104 weeks target by the end of March because choices were made on the balance of performance and finance in line with the difficult choices facing all HBs - the WHSSC Joint Committee agreed not to accelerate improvement beyond a continued steady improvement towards the target. However, following the approval of the ICP, Welsh Government published revised targets to achieve the 104 week waiting time target by March 2025. Members noted that this target was further revised through the NHS Wales CEO letter in May 2024 with revised Ministerial KPIs of no patients waiting over 104 weeks by the end of December 2024.

Members received additional information relating to;

- Contract Performance
- Measures of comparative efficiency
- Delivery Assurance
- Feedback on the Options

Following consideration of this additional information in relation to the above areas, the MG requested further additional information.

Members (1)**noted** the information presented within the report, (2)**noted** the decision made at the Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) meeting on 16 July 2024 to proceed with Option 2 whilst the financial framework to meet the target is further considered, and that they requested that the decision be subject to urgent due diligence by the Specialised Services Management Group; and (3)**discussed** and **considered** the due diligence required for the decision to proceed with Option 2. Members (4) **agreed** that further information would be requested from the provider and be brought back to an Extraordinary MG meeting for further discussion.

4. Specialised Services for Women's Health

Members discussed specialised services for women's health and it was agreed that this was an area where there was inequity of access across Wales. There were capacity issues at present within the Women and Children's Commissioning team and it was agreed that this was an area where members would welcome some scoping work to be undertaken in the future.

Members (1)**discussed** and (2)**agreed** to provide information to the JCC Team in advance of this scoping work being undertaken.

5. Development of The National Joint Commissioning Committee Inaugural Integrated Medium Term Plan

Members received a report outlining the proposed process for the development of the inaugural Joint Commissioning Committee Integrated Medium Term Plan 2025-2028. The Standing Orders for the JCC in relation to planning state that the JCC must produce an Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTP) which describes how the services delegated to the JCC will be delivered on behalf of LHBs, through clear 'commissioning intentions', which informs and complements the LHBs IMTPs.

Due to the development of the new organisation, the planning process was an important part of both the Organisational Development programme for the Committee and its early reputational management, signalling a new way of working for NHS Wales.

Members (1)**noted** the report, (2)**noted** that the inaugural workshop to develop the Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) had taken place,

strengthening early engagement in the planning process, and bringing together the two predecessor organisation Management Groups for the first time, (3)**noted** the summary of discussions which will be used to inform the first plan; and (4)**agreed** to receive further updates as the engagement on the development of the plan progresses.

6. Specialised Services Integrated Performance Report - April 2024

Members received a report providing an integrated overview of the performance of specialised services commissioned by the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) up to the end of May 2024. In future meetings, the report would need to reflect the entirety of the NWJCC.

Members **noted** the report.

7. Financial Performance Report Month 3

Members received a report providing narrative to the Month 3 position of NWJCC for the 2024/2025 financial year reported against the 2024/25 baselines following approval of the WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) and EASC Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) by their respective Joint Committees of the 7 Health Boards in March 2024.

The MG noted the following;

- The finance report was based on data from early on in the year and the JCC team were going back to providers and challenging some of the information but the position was based on the current trajectory and the contract performance activity performed to date. ST highlighted the need for all members to be aware of the risks of the current financial forecast position.
- The financial position for 2024/25 reported at Month 3 was a £2.8m overspend against the ICP financial plan to date, with a forecast year-end overspend of £2.5m. Members received a comprehensive summary of the main financial issues as outlined in the report.
- As previously agreed, STa added a section within the financial report advising on the Individual Patient Funding request (IPFR) overspend highlighting the year-end forecast included £2.2m in relation to Enzyme Replacement Therapy drugs and £1.2m in relation to general IPFR approvals which transferred over from 2023-2024. The general IPFR position included an unusual number of high-cost individual approvals within the first few weeks of this financial year.
- At this stage, £7m had been identified with a further £3m to be developed throughout the year from the £10m savings target.
- The Transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) and cardiology were highlighted as areas of significant overspend and SJ questioned whether the plan was based on the correct financial assumptions.

Members **noted** the month end financial position.

8. JCC Discussion and Options to Breakeven

Members received a verbal update following the JCC conversation that took place at the public JCC meeting on 17 July 2024 and members noted that the JCC team had committed to undertake some work over the summer and return to the JCC with an update in relation to the route to breakeven at its September 2024 meeting. Members received a timeline of activity from now until the next JCC meeting outlining the work that the JCC team would be undertaking.

Members agreed that the Finance Working Group would meet before the September 2024 JCC meeting to inform the discussion on what was included within the finance recovery plan.

Members **noted** the verbal update.

9. Policy Group Report

A report providing an update on activity and output from the NWJCC Policy Group during the period 01 March 2024 – 30 June 2024 together with an updated overview of all NWJCC policies and service specifications including those published during the current financial year, together with the rationale for their development was presented.

Members **noted** the report.

10. Implementation of Legacy Plans – Quarter 1 Update

A report providing members with an update for assurance against the Q1 deliverables of the extant legacy Plans including WHSSC, EASC and NCCU was received.

Members **noted** the report for assurance on delivery of the legacy Plans at the end of Quarter 1.

Any Other Business (AOB)

- **Integrated Care Boards (ICB)**

An update on the recent developments with the NHS England ICBs was provided.