



CORE BRIEF TO MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERS

MEETING HELD ON 30 MAY 2024

This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and decision. It aims to ensure the 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 that, following on from the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings continued to be held via MS Teams.

2. Action Log

Members received an update on progress against the action log and **noted** the updates.

3. Findings of the Independent Review of Paediatric Respiratory Commissioning needs

Members received a report outlining the findings of the independent review of the 'Paediatric Respiratory commissioning needs undertaken by Professor Chris Fegan, and which requested support for the next steps set out in the report including working with Cardiff and Vale UHB (CVUHB) on a phased approach to deliver a sustainable service.

Members noted that the review was a key deliverable of the approved Specialised Paediatric Services Strategy and of the WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) 2023-24.

Members (1) **Noted** the independent review findings; and (2) **Supported** the next steps outlined in section 4 of the report.

4. Funding Release for the Formal Commissioning of the Specialised Paediatric Infectious Diseases Service

Members received a report requesting support to release funding to formally commission the Specialised Paediatric Infectious Diseases Service as set out in the Specialised Paediatric Services Strategy. The Specialised Paediatric Services Commissioning Strategy was approved by the WHSSC Joint Committee in 2022/23, and a commissioning budget for its implementation was agreed. The agreed process historically was that all funding releases were approved by the WHSSC Management Group.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Supported** the release of funding to enable the implementation of the Specialised Paediatric Services Strategy to establish the new Specialised Paediatric Infectious Diseases Service;

and (3) **Noted** that the requested funding was within the provision made in the 2024/25 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP).

5. Funding Release for the Formal Commissioning of the Specialised Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery

Members received a report requesting support for the release of funding to support the transfer of commissioning responsibilities for the Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) to formally commission Specialised Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery.

An in depth discussion took place around the proposed Transfers of Services and the complexities involved in undertaking these were raised and noted. The formation of the new JCC was an opportunity to review current arrangements. Members noted that the JCC sub-committee structure is under development and the place of the Finance Working Group has yet to be clarified.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Supported** the release of funding to enable the implementation of the Specialised Paediatric Services Strategy to commission Specialised Orthopaedic Surgery; and (3) **Noted** that the requested funding was within the provision made in the 2024/27 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP).

6. A Value Based Approach to the Review of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Service

Members received a report proposing a Value Based Approach to the Review of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Service.

Members noted that the JCC identified within the 2024/25 ICP that a review of the service was required in order to ascertain whether the form and cost of the service remained appropriate moving forward, and to identify whether further changes to the character of CF provision were anticipated.

Members noted that the value-based review of the CF service would include:

- A commissioning and provider CF dashboard,
- A New contract /Service level Agreement (SLA) (dependent on review findings); and
- A New service specification and/or policy (dependent on review findings).

Members (1) **Noted** the report; and (2) **Supported** the proposal and approach as described in the report.

7. Performance and Activity Report – March 2024

Members received a report providing an integrated overview of the performance of specialised services commissioned by the NWJCC up to the end of March 2024. Quality issues, services in escalation, financial performance, recovery rates, access comparisons across Health Boards and waiting lists were considered, along with the relevant Performance

Measures set out by Welsh Government. The particular issues with regard to plastic surgery and paediatric surgery were noted by members.

Members **noted** the report.

8. Financial Performance Report Month 1 - 2024-2025

Members received a report providing narrative to the Month 1 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.

Members noted financial position for 2024/25 reported at Month 1 was a £148k overspend against the ICP financial plan to date, with a nil year-end forecast variance at this point.

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

9. Any Other Business

- **WHSSC ICP 2024-25/EASC IMTP 2024-25** – members noted that the predecessor approved plans were extant and that the planning team would be issuing a questionnaire to member to obtain feedback on how the planning process in the predecessor organisation had run, to identify any lesson learned and areas or development to support developing the new JCC IMTP. Members noted that letters will be issued to HBs soon outlining the findings of the risk assessments undertaken for the services approved in the WHSSC ICP 24-25.
- **Farewell to Senior Specialised Services Planning Manager** – members noted that it was Kimberley Meringolo's last meeting and thanked her for her dedication and commitment to developing and strengthening planning processes over the years she had been with WHSSC. She had made a significant contribution to the work of the Women and Childrens commissioning team and members wished her every success in her new role with the NHS Wales Executive.