

Performance Governance Committee Assurance Report to Grampian NHS Board

Purpose of Report

This report summarises the key matters considered by the Committee under the revised 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 the COVID-19 remobilisation plan.

This report covers the Committee meeting held on 27 August 2020.

Recommendation

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

Performance

The members considered the performance report, which was presented in advance of the meeting as a slide presentation with a supporting video clip from the Director of Finance. The performance summary covered the following: COVID response (with a focus on management of the recent outbreak in Aberdeen City, the current performance in relation to non COVID services and reference to the remobilisation plan recently submitted to Scottish Government). The following key points were noted:

- The members noted the data presented in relation to the steps taken to manage the recent outbreak in Aberdeen City. The members sought and received assurance regarding testing capacity across Grampian and noted the recent challenges with the booking of tests within the national test centres. The members welcomed the update and acknowledged the inclusion of data in relation to testing and use of the COVID hubs by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SMID).
- The members noted the position in relation to unscheduled care, the treatment time guarantee and outpatients waiting list size and the position regarding cancer care and that new trajectories for activity and performance would be discussed with Scottish Government as part of the remobilisation planning. The Chair also commended the work in relation to cancer, whilst noting the challenges that would present in the coming months.

The members reflected on the use of the video presentation and provided constructive feedback. It was agreed that the Director of Finance and Head of Health Intelligence would consider a blended approach to reporting which could combine the benefits of the use of video style presentation, with a supporting performance report and narrative.

Remobilisation Plan

The Director of Finance presented a paper setting out the option to extend the role of the Performance Governance Committee to be the single point for co-ordination of assurance to the Board on progress with the implementation of the remobilisation plan. This would cover performance against the trajectories agreed with Scottish Government, the milestones set out in the plan and assurances around achievement of the nine objectives, linked to the national Recover, Remobilise and Renew strategy.

The members asked a number of questions regarding the reporting framework and how progress would be evaluated. The Chief Executive confirmed that there would be greater clarity regarding the trajectories and key milestones following the Remobilisation Plan feedback session with Scottish Government on 1 September. The Director of Finance will develop the reporting framework following this meeting.

The Committee agreed to the change to their remit to include the extended assurance role regarding delivery of the remobilisation plan and supported the further development of the reporting and assurance framework.

Finance position at Month 4

The Committee reviewed the finance report at the end of Month 4 and would highlight the following:

- A cumulative overspend of £1.2m against budget at end of July and break even position for the month of July.
- The main area of overspend was in relation to medical staffing which had overspent by £1.76m year to date. Whilst locum spend was down by 25% this was below the 40% required within the Board's financial plan. Members challenged the assumptions regarding reduction in locum spend and noted the work of the short life working group established to focus on achieving this outcome. This will be kept under review by the Committee.
- The members noted the position regarding nurse staffing which was only slightly above budget (£0.3m), with agency spend reduced by 43% compared to prior years.
- The members noted that the total projected spend this year is £100m for COVID and remobilisation costs and the level of funding would be subject to discussion with Scottish Government.

In conclusion, the Director of Finance confirmed that financial forecasts would indicate that the Board would meet its financial targets with careful financial management and mitigation of risks and on the assumption of the funding of COVID and remobilisation costs in line with submitted plans. The Director of Finance also confirmed that there was a need to start planning for 2021/22, given uncertainty over the continuing impact of COVID and support for additional costs being incurred by NHS Boards.

Matters referred to other Board Committees

Whilst, there were no matters referred to any other Board Committee the members noted the requirement for a 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 27 August 2020

**NHS Grampian
Performance Governance Committee
Thursday 27th August 2020 - 10.00 to 11.30
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

Agenda

1.	Welcome		
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting – 25 th June 2020		*
3.	Items for Discussion		
	3.1	Performance Summary (COVID and Non-COVID) and Remobilisation Plan Milestones	Video *
	3.2	Finance Report	*
	3.3	Infrastructure Risk	*
4	Short Life Working Group – Role for PGC		#
5	Matter to Highlight to Board		#
	Date of Next Meeting Thursday 21st October at 14.00		

* Paper attached
Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson

Apologies to: else.smaaskjaer@nhs.net