

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 21 October.

Recommendation

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

Performance

The members considered the performance report which covered the following: COVID outbreak position (with comparison to the first wave), performance data in relation to unscheduled care, elective care and cancer care and a position statement in relation to inpatient mental health and chronic pain management. The following key points were noted:

- The members noted the data presented in relation to the current COVID situation which in Grampian was markedly different than the experience of peer Boards elsewhere in Scotland. Whilst the rate of incidence of COVID and associated hospital admissions had been rising both were significantly lower than the Scottish average. The Committee noted that the outbreak position was being monitored closely, with daily reporting to the Chief Executive's team having recommenced. The members noted that further automated reporting was being developed to track the flu vaccinations programme.
- 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. The trajectories within the remobilisation plan were being kept under review and our plan had been agreed with colleagues in the Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorate. The members noted the progress made in relation to the treatment of the highest priority patients and asked that for the following meeting there be a focus on those patients in the lower prioritisation category (Category 3), whose waiting time was increasing, and what steps were being implemented to monitor and support patients in this position. The members noted that the ESCATS prioritisation system did allow for the continued review of Category 3 patients but wished to understand the steps and processes implemented to monitor and communicate with this patient cohort.

- The members noted the change in profile of patients admitted to Royal Cornhill Hospital and welcomed the planned work being undertaken in relation to chronic pain management. The members acknowledged that further work was required to develop a comprehensive response given the extent of the pain management service and that progress would be kept under review.

The members welcomed the information presented and a commitment was given by the Director of Finance to continue to review the dataset and ensure that it met the wider objectives of the Board and Committee in terms of understanding and responding to the diverse needs of the population.

Remobilisation Plan

The Director of Finance presented an overview of the remobilisation plan and confirmed that a process had now been implemented to track implementation of the key milestones. An update would be provided in the performance report to the December Board meeting.

Finance position at Month 6

The Committee reviewed the finance report at the end of Month 6 and would highlight the following:

- A cumulative overspend of £0.5m against budget at end of September (compared to £2.08 million at the same point in 2019/20).
- Medical locum spend on agency staff (£5.4 million year to date) for NHS Grampian managed services was 30% down on 2019/20. The Acute Sector was showing an overall 47% reduction in medical locum spend.
- Agency nursing spend was £2.11 million for the year to date, which is a 49% reduction on the same period in 2019/20. There continues to be only a small number of areas using agency nursing within NHS Grampian, including ARI Theatres, Cath Labs, Neuro, ITU / HDU and Mental Health.
- The members noted that an initial tranche of funding of £56 million had been received from the Scottish Government to cover actual and projected COVID and remobilisation costs. This covers costs incurred by NHS Grampian and the IJBs, including social care costs.

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 confirmed that planning for 2021/22 had commenced.

Matters referred to other Board Committees

There were no matters referred to any other Board Committee.

Rhona Atkinson
Chair, Performance Governance Committee

Attachment: Agenda of Performance Governance Committee meeting of 21 October 2020

**NHS Grampian
Performance Governance Committee
Wednesday 21st October 2020 - 14.00 to 16.00
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

Agenda

1.	Welcome	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting – 27 th August 2020	*
3.	Items for Discussion	
	3.1 Performance Summary (COVID and Non-COVID)	*
	3.2 Response to Scottish Government in Relation to Remobilisation Plan	*
	3.3 Progress Report on Delivery of October Milestones – Remobilisation Plan	*
	3.4 Finance Report	*
4	Matter to Highlight to Board	#
	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 16th December 14.00	

* Paper attached

Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson

Apologies to: else.smaaskjaer@nhs.scot