

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 mobilisation plan.

This report covers the Committee meeting held on 25 June 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 covered the following: Acute Planned Care (elective and cancer), Test and Protect, Care Homes; COVID SITREP and Unscheduled Care. The following key points were covered in consideration of the current position:

- The members noted the position regarding the increase in patients waiting for treatment or a first outpatient appointment. Whilst the overall waiting list size had not increased significantly since March, the members highlighted the need to ensure that we adopted a patient centred approach to supporting those individuals who were waiting at this time and the important role of the primary and secondary care clinical interface in achieving this.
- The members noted the reduction in the number of the highest priority patients (including cancer) waiting for surgery and the increase in the number of procedures now being undertaken in line with the recently agreed re-mobilisation plan.
- The data in terms of the COVID-19 position was noted, in particular the decrease in the number of new people with a positive test and the number of patients in hospital or intensive care with COVID.
- The members noted the increasing number of attendances at the main emergency departments in Grampian which were returning close to pre-COVID-19 levels.
- The members noted that NHS Grampian was conducting more patient consultations using digital methods than any other Board in Scotland and that this was enabling ongoing support to patients.

The members acknowledged the challenges in planning in uncertain times and forecasting demand and capacity requirements. The next version of the re-mobilisation plan would provide a further opportunity to set out the outcomes and further measures against which progress could be evaluated.

Finance position at Month 2

The Committee noted that the finance report at the end of Month 2 and would highlight the following:

- Despite a significant downturn in activity terms our overall position at the end of May the Board reported an overspend of £0.34 million (excluding the finance positions in relation to the three health and social care partnerships). At the moment we are assuming that each of the three IJBs will be able to operate within the financial resources allocated to them.
- Whilst this is lower than the monthly level of overspending incurred in the 2019/20 year, it is noted that during April and May many services had been stopped or significantly reduced due to Covid. The issues relating to the core finance position pre-COVID remain and it is likely that the financial position will be very tight again in this financial year.
- Review of the results for April and May suggests that many of the underlying pressures from 2019/20 (medical staffing, nurse staffing, unmet efficiency savings) are still present and will begin to emerge again when activity levels increase. In this respect we have restarted the cross-system supplementary staffing group to agree a plan to reduce our dependency on locum medical staffing and agency nurse staffing.
- It is estimated that in the first two months of the financial year the Board has incurred costs of £3.9 million in responding to Covid. Main cost areas have been in additional temporary staffing (student nurses, junior medical staff, Domestic, Porters and additional overtime), costs of additional bed capacity (ITU and Medical beds), loss of income (catering, retail, Road Traffic accidents) and spend on IT equipment. If Covid related spend continues at this rate it would suggest total costs for the year of circa £23 million. This is in line with the estimates the Board has submitted to the Scottish Government.

Engagement and Participation Committee and Spiritual Care Committee

Following discussion with the Chair of these Committees, it was agreed prior to the meeting that both Committees would revert back to meeting in their own right and that a forward programme would be communicated to respective members in due course.

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 25 June 2020

**NHS Grampian
Performance Governance Committee
Thursday 25th June 2020 - 10.00 to 11.00
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)**

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 28th May 2020
3. Items for Discussion:
 - 3.1 Performance Summary (COVID and non COVID)
 - 3.2 Finance Report – April and May 2020
4. AOCB
5. Matters to Highlight to Board
6. Date of Next Meeting – 27th August 10.00 (Teams)

* Paper attached

Verbal

Chair: Rhona Atkinson

Apologies to: else.smaaskjaer@nhs.net