

## Endowment Committee Report to Grampian NHS Board Committee Meeting held on 8 November 2019

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This report updates the Grampian NHS Board on key issues arising from the Endowment Committee meeting held on Friday 8 November 2019

The Board is asked to note the following key points:

### 1. Investment Performance

The Committee received an update on performance from our fund managers Aberdeen Standard Capital. The portfolio continues to perform well, valued at £46.3m, at the beginning of November compared to £41.5m at the end of March 2018. The estimated income for the year remains above target at £1.59m compared to our budget of £1.25m. This positive performance is partly due to the impact of the low pound sterling (many of the equities in the portfolio are quoted in other currencies) and partly due to the strategic approach of our fund managers, Aberdeen Standard Capital, which continues to target particular stocks with prospects of long term growth in order to help mitigate the impact of uncertainty in the global macroeconomic environment driven by a number of factors including Brexit and trade tariffs between China and the USA.

### 2. Short Life Working Group

The Trustees short life working group met on 1 November 2019 in order to consider the Charity's future strategy. A series of recommendations will be developed in the coming months regarding our strategy for prioritisation of investment, measuring outcomes and success, fund raising and governance arrangements, when the outcome of the national review is available (this is now expected sometime in the New Year). All Trustees will be invited to a meeting in January 2020 to allow them the opportunity to consider and comment on the proposed direction of travel for the charity. All Trustees will also be invited to an evaluation workshop during 2020 and details of this event will be circulated in due course.

### 3. Applications

- Scottish Charity Air Ambulance: The Committee considered additional evidence provided by the SCAA and a recommendation has been made to all Trustees which is currently under consideration.
- Cancer Research: The Committee approved funding from specific Endowment Funds for an additional cancer research nurse. Initially for a period of three years with continuation thereafter dependent on further donations.
- Wellbeing and Enablement Practitioners: The Committee approved an application to support a training initiative designed to create a new role of Wellbeing and Enablement Practitioner. Wellbeing and Enablement Practitioners will work with people of all ages and in a variety of settings, thereby enabling registered nurses to focus on more complex clinical duties. The intention is to create 20 training posts to be remunerated at AFC Band 4 level consistent with other similar training initiatives. All Health and Social Care staff currently graded as AFC Band 2 or Band 3 or equivalent will be offered the opportunity to apply for these training posts. The Committee agreed to allocate funding of up to £520k a year for each of two years from General Endowment Funds in order to cover the cost of releasing Health and Social Care assistants from their substantive roles in order to participate in the training scheme. Any additional cost of salary paid to staff appointed on to the training scheme i.e. the difference between backfilling staff at Band 2 or 3 compared to the training grade of Band 4, will be met by NHS Grampian. The 'pump priming' of the training programme by endowments will provide the evidence of effectiveness of this new post which has the potential to be scaled up across the system. NHS Grampian core funding will maintain these posts after the training programme is completed.

**Luan Grugeon**  
**Chair of Trustees**  
**26 November 2019**