

Performance Governance Committee Report to Grampian NHS Board Committee Meeting on 18 January 2018

Purpose of Report

This report updates the Grampian NHS Board on key issues arising from the Committee meeting on 18 January 2019.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the following key points:

Financial Position

The Director of Finance provided an update on the financial position for the nine months to December 2018. An overspend of £856K was being reported which was slightly above trajectory but was not a cause for concern. The position for December itself was an underspend of £317K and mainly due to a breakeven position in operational budgets however this was as a consequence of overspends on medical staffing and underspends in drug costs and nurse staffing. Overall staffing numbers were below establishment by 368WTE (2.8%)

The largest overspending operational areas were Acute Woman and Children's Division, Dr Gray's Hospital and Facilities. Financial performance of the Integration Joint Boards was excluded from the financial report as there are separate review arrangements in place for monitoring their performance. Two of the three Integration Joint Boards were projecting an overspend at the year end.

Financial planning had begun for 2019/20 when it is known that there will be a requirement to deliver new savings over and above the level delivered in previous years.

Performance Update

The Committee received an update on overall performance with a comprehensive presentation on acute services

Treatment time guarantee breaches for inpatients and outpatients continued to be reported. All Boards had experienced an increase over the festive period. There continued to be close monitoring of patient safety while on a waiting list. To date no causality had been identified between patient death and reason for being on the waiting list. Nationally additional resource had been offered by Scottish Government for additional independent sector provision in orthopaedics by the end of March but this could not be secured in the time available. Additional support for cataracts and urgent suspected cancer endoscopy has been secured, however, for additional activity by the end of March 2019. Elective capacity has been compromised due to unscheduled care demand impacting on surgical areas – this is due to the inability to open the full winter additional bed capacity because of a lack of available nurse staffing. Cancer cases were being prioritised and the local cancer action plan continued to be implemented. As data was published quarterly improvements were not yet being reported but were anticipated.

Considerable work was underway with specialties to determine future sustainable capacity in order to respond to the National Waiting Times Improvement Plan issued in October 2018 which introduced a number of challenging new targets.

An update was also provided on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and it was noted by PGC that the Grampian service had been commended for its use of the Choice and Partnership Approach (CAPA). This is a model of service delivery which provides job planning to ensure efficiency and also equitable delivery of capacity by all staff members. Targeted support was being provided to Moray where access times were longest.

Media Monitoring and Social Media

PGC received a report covering November and December 2018. Dr Gray's staffing challenges continued to dominate over this period. Social media continued to be used to promote positive stories and provided the opportunity to showcase services outwith the main ARI site. This facilitated direct contact with the general public and feedback was very encouraging. There was widespread coverage of Christmas babies.

Assurance Reports

Performance Governance Committee received assurance reports from the Clinical Governance Committee and The Engagement and Participation Committee. Updates were also provided from Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray Community Planning Partnerships. It was noted that the format of these assurance reports was to be reviewed.

Mrs Rhona Atkinson
Performance Governance Committee
25 January 2019