



CORE BRIEF TO MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERS

MEETING HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2024

This briefing sets out the key areas of discussion and decision. It aims to ensure the Management Group (MG) members have a common core brief to disseminate within their organisation.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting noting that, following on from the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings continued to be held via MS Teams.

2. Action Log

Members received an update on progress against the action log and **noted** the updates.

3. Managing Director's Report

Members received the Managing Director's Report and noted the updates on:

- **Functional Neurosurgical Service for Patients with Complex Movement Disorders in south Wales (including a Deep Brain Stimulation Service) – Designated Provider Assessment Outcome** - In early 2023 the Neurosciences and Long Term Conditions (LTC) commissioning team identified a number of significant risks in relation to the pathways for patients requiring DBS, a low referral rate for DBS for the size of the population and that there was no designated provider with a contract to provide a DBS service for patients who would benefit from DBS from South Wales – (the historical relationship with the Bristol service was based on an individual referral basis). The WHSSC MG supported the proposal to undertake a Designated Provider Process to identify the future provider in November 2023. A letter inviting 'Expressions of interest' (EOI) to be the designated provider for this service for the population of South Wales was published on the WHSSC website with a closing date of 10 November 2023. The assessment group (Neurosciences and LTC Commissioning Team with additional expertise from the Clinical Lead in Complex Functional Movement Disorder Service) considered all the evidence received from the two providers that submitted expressions of interest. Based on the quality elements, St Georges University Hospital was awarded the highest overall score. The remaining elements of the process are in the process of being finalised and some further work on the financial elements is underway. Discussions will take place with Llais and the affected Health Boards (HBs) concerning any requirement for engagement or

consultation with their populations for this urgent service change. A further update will be provided to the MG in due course; and

- **Cochlear Implant and Bone Conduction Hearing Implant – Update** - The expression of interest process undertaken in 2023 identified that CVUHB was the only Welsh HB interested in being designated as a WHSSC- commissioned provider of a Specialist Auditory Implant Device Hub with an Outreach Service for south east Wales, south west Wales and south Powys. A paper was discussed at CDGB on 6th February 2024 and the following steps were agreed:
 - Proposal to be referred back to CVUHB for revision and the addition of required information which, when resubmitted to WHSSC, will enable a robust assessment and scoring of the HBs ability to be a WHSSC- commissioned provider; and
 - WHSSC to undertake a 'deep dive' financial appraisal of the Cochlear Implant and Bone Conduction Hearing Implant service in collaboration with CVUHB.

The consultation process for the Specialist Auditory Implant Device Hub with an Outreach Service for south east Wales, south west Wales and south Powys which was due to commence in February 2024, will be delayed.

Members **noted** the report.

4. Adult Specialised Rehabilitation Services 5 year Commissioning Strategy

Members received a report presenting the draft 5 year WHSSC Adult Specialised Rehabilitation Services Commissioning Strategy for Wales 2024/25 -2028/29.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Commented** on the content of the draft 5 year WHSSC Adult Specialised Rehabilitation Services Commissioning Strategy for Wales 2024/25 -2028/29; and (3) **Supported** the content of the draft strategy for consideration at Joint Committee prior to issuing for stakeholder feedback.

5. Neonatal Phase 2 – Programme Outline

Members received a report describing the pre-planning engagement with the NHS Wales Directors of Planning (DoP) peer group and others to design the Neonatal Phase 2 – Programme Outline, to set out the remit of the proposed Programme and to outline the high-level design and structure of the Programme.

Members (1) **Noted** the report, (2) **Noted** the rationale for the Programme of works, (3) **Noted** the scope and remit of the Programme; and (4) **Noted** the Programme Structure set out in the report.

6. WHSSC Commissioning Framework

Members received a report presenting the WHSSC Specialised Services Commissioning Framework for information.

Members (1) **Noted** the Specialised Services Commissioning Framework.

7. Performance and Activity Report – December 2023

Members received a report providing a summary of the performance of WHSSC commissioned services. Further detail by resident Health Board was provided in an accompanying Power BI Dashboard report.

Members **noted** the report.

8. Financial Performance Report Month 10 2023-2024

Members received a report setting out the financial position for WHSSC for the 10th month of 2023-2024. The financial position was reported against the 2023-2024 baselines following approval of the 2023-2026 WHSSC Integrated Commissioning Plan by the Joint Committee in February 2023.

Members noted the year to date financial position reported at Month 10 for WHSSC (excluding EASC) is an underspend against the ICP financial plan of (£6.121m), the forecast year-end position is an underspend of (£9.222m).

Members **noted** the current financial position and the forecast year-end position.

9. Forward Work Plan

Members **noted** the forward work plan.

10. Any Other Business

- **Managing Director, WHSSC Last Meeting** - members noted that it was Dr Sian Lewis, Managing Director, WHSSC, last meeting. Members thanked her for her hard work and commitment in bringing the work of WHSSC along significantly during her tenure and wished her well in future.

