

<b>Reporting Committee</b>	<b>WHSSC Integrated Governance Committee (IGC)</b>
<b>Chaired by</b>	<b>WHSSC Chair</b>
<b>Lead Executive Director</b>	<b>Committee Secretary</b>
<b>Date of last meeting</b>	<b>14 February 2024</b>

**Summary of key matters considered by the Committee and any related decisions made.**

The Integrated Governance Committee (IGC) scrutinises evidence and information brought before it in relation to activities and potential risks, which impact on the services commissioned by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) and provides assurance to the Joint Committee that effective governance and scrutiny arrangements are in place across the organisation.

Meetings continue to be held via MS Teams.

**14 February 2024**

**1.0 DELIVERY OF THE INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING PLAN (ICP) ICP 2023-2024 – QUARTER 3 UPDATE**

Members received an informative report providing an update on the Delivery of the ICP for Quarter 3.

Members noted that WHSSC had put forward a range of Financial Improvement Options to Welsh Government (WG) and that a number of work areas were paused whilst a comprehensive risk assessment was undertaken on all uncommitted expenditure and new developments prioritised through the Clinical Impact Assessment Group (CIAG) (part of the ICP development process for 2024/25). This had impacted on the delivery of a number of actions in the Plan which were now paused or stopped. The results of this work had been included in the final draft of the ICP 2024/25 for approval by the Joint Committee (JC) in March 2024. In addition, a number of actions had been closed and these were also noted in the report.

**2.0 WELSH KIDNEY NETWORK UPDATE**

Members received an update on the work of the WKN.

Members noted that the main challenge was the inability to recruit a new WKN manager to the existing staffing structure. There were interim arrangements in place to cover the role involving WHSSC staff supporting the WKN. In addition members noted the additional business continuity risks due to the Executive Lead for WKN leaving WHSSC. Members noted the challenges to maintain business

continuity in the advent of transition to the new NHS Wales Joint commissioning Committee (JCC) from the 1 April 2024.

Karen Preece (KP) was congratulated for strengthening and developing the work of the WKN during her time as executive lead and Nicola Johnson (NJ), Director of Planning & Performance, WHSSC would be the new executive lead going forward.

Members noted that once the transitional arrangements for the new JCC were known, the WKN issues will be built into the operating model and the new Tier 1 Chief Commissioner will work with the network for long term support.

### **3.0 CORPORATE RISK ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK (CRAF)**

Members received a report outlining WHSSC's current risks scoring 15 or above on the commissioning teams and directorate risk registers. Members noted the updates in red.

Members noted that there were 27 open risks on the CRAF, 20 Commissioning risks and 7 Organisational risks.

3 new risks had recently been added:

- 64 Lack of Interventional Radiology at SBUHB (WKN15)
- 65 Renal Dialysis Capacity across Wales (WKN 18)
- 66 Business Continuity risk for specialised services commissioning (CS18)

One risk had been escalated:

- 39 Renal Funding (WKN06)

Two risks had been closed:

- 52 Additional Dialysis Sessions (WKN12). This risk has been incorporated into a new risks – WKN 18.
- 58 Goals, methods and outcomes pressures (PT/13). This is now an issue, not a risk.

An update on the Wales Fertility Institute risk was provided. Members queried the context around the Neonatal risks, and whether Health Boards (HBs) were taking forward plans to address concerns or whether it would be the new JCC. Members noted that there were discussions with stakeholders as a pre engagement process where a programme of work had been agreed. The delivery of the Neonatal programme will be taken through the JCC and maternity services will be taken through by HBs. Members noted that a report was due to be presented to the JCC in May 2024.

### **3.0 SUMMARY OF SERVICES IN ESCALATION**

Members noted:

- There were 4 services in escalation at level 3 and above,
- The Burns and Paediatric Cardiac Surgery (Bristol) had recently been de-escalated from Level 3 to Level 2; and
- The WFI service was escalated to level 4 during the last reporting period and three Paediatric services remained at Escalation Level 3.

#### **4.0 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

Members noted updates on the following :

##### **Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Panel Governance**

The Joint Committee (JC) received a report presenting the outcomes from the engagement process with key stakeholders to review the All Wales IPFR Policy and to seek support for the proposed changes to the policy prior to being shared with Health Boards for final approval.

Following JC approval, the updated policy was shared with the seven HBs for final approval through their respective Boards. Confirmation that all of the 7 HBs have approved the policy has been received. A letter dated 6 February 2024 has been sent to Andrew Evans, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer from Welsh Government from Sian Lewis seeking confirmation that the new policy can now be adopted. Once confirmation is received, the IPFR risk can be closed.

##### **WHSSC Internal and External Audit Trackers**

Members noted the most recent updates.

##### **WHSSC Committee Effectiveness Exercise for 2023/2024**

In order to comply with the reporting requirements of the Annual Governance Statement and as the corporate governance team continue to be heavily involved in drafting the new governance framework for the new Joint Commissioning Committee, members supported the proposal to limit the Committee Effectiveness exercise for 2023/2024 to the Joint Committee.

##### **WHSSC Legacy Statement**

A WHSSC legacy statement is in the process of being developed. This will provide a good foundation for the new JCC and ensure that the achievements of WHSSC and key areas of existing work and development are not lost in any transition.

#### **5.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **Key risks and issues/matters of concern and any mitigating actions**

As identified above the WKN business continuity risks.

#### **Matters requiring Joint Committee level consideration and/or approval**

None	
<b>Matters referred to other Committees</b>	
None	
The confirmed Minutes for IGC meetings are available on request	
<b>Date of next meeting</b>	TBC