

Agenda Item

2.2

Joint Commissioning Committee

Interim Chief Commissioners Report

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	16/07/2024
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Abigail Harris, Chief Commissioner of the JCC
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Abigail Harris, Chief Commissioner of the JCC
Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor	Abigail Harris, Chief Commissioner of the JCC

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad / Report Purpose	For Noting
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Engagement (internal/external) undertaken to date (including receipt /consideration at Committee/Group)		
Committee/Group/Individuals	Date	Outcome
JCC Senior Leaders have been engaged in discussions regarding the proposals and options for the JCC Sub-Committee Structures. Management Group members have fed in comments regarding the new collaborative commissioning management arrangements.	June/July	Comments have helped shape proposals and options.

Acronyms / Glossary of Terms	
DAG	Delivery Assurance Group
DoT&T	Director of Transition and Transformation
EASC	Emergency Ambulance Services Committee
ECMO	Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation
JCC	Joint Commissioning Committee
HB	Health Board
HFEA	Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority

MBU	Mother & Baby Unit
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Service
WHSSC	Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee
WSAS	Welsh Sexual Assault Service

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

At each Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) meeting, the Chief Commissioner will present a report on key issues that have arisen since its last meeting on 21 May 2024. The purpose of the report is to keep the JCC up to date with important matters related to the JCC. The report covers matters relating to the establishment of the JCC and a small number of key issues relating to deliver of the Integrated Commissioning Plans (ICP's) and commissioned services. A number of issues raised may also feature in more detail within the Directors' reports as part of the JCC's business.

2. ASSESSMENT

2.1 Overarching Assessment of delivery of Quarter 1 Transition Plan

At its inaugural meeting on 9 April the JCC endorsed the Q1 Transition Plan which set out the key actions to be completed in the first quarter of the JCC's operation. A formal review of the actions included within the plan has been undertaken by the Director of Transition and Transformation (DoT&T) and the outstanding actions will be taking forward into Q2 and will form part of the work programme to fully establish the JCC over the next 12 months.

Overall good progress has been made in the first three months in the life of the JCC. The most pressing issues to be completed in the early part of Q2 relate to finalising arrangements for the sub-committee structure and completing the tier two director appointments which are all in train. Once the appointments are completed, we will move quickly into the next phase of the Organisational Change Process as the full JCC structure is confirmed. We are delighted that the Director of Planning and Performance has been successful in being appointed to a Health Board (HB) Executive Director position as the next step in her career. The JCC Planning and Performance Director Post recruitment is underway.

2.2 Establishing the JCC Sub-Committee Structure and Work programme

The DoT&T is working with the two Committee Secretaries to finalise proposals for the JCC Sub-Committee structure and associated work programme. Proposals for the operational arrangements that will support the Chief Commissioner in discharging their delegated duties, including the establishment of effective collaborative commissioning involving HB colleagues, are also being finalised. Proposals and options will be presented to JCC members for consideration with a view to getting the new arrangements in place during Q2.

2.3 Public Health Input

The JCC team is working with the National Director of Public Health and Wellbeing in Public Health Wales (PHW) to develop a proposal to address the recommendation of the Combe report “an Independent Report into a review of National Commissioning Functions” to secure public health input into the JCC’s commissioning activities. Based on learning from NHS England (NHSE) and elsewhere, further work is being undertaken on the service required and the business case and the final proposal will come to the JCC in September for agreement. This is a key part in the establishment of the JCC to support a population health and evidence-based approach to commissioning that puts quality and equity at the centre.

2.4 Infected Blood Inquiry

The Infected Blood Inquiry examined the circumstances in which patients treated by the NHS before 1996 received infected blood and blood products. The Inquiry final report was published in May 2024. Two groups of patients were at risk – those with inherited bleeding disorders (commonly haemophilia) who received blood products, and those who received blood transfusions. Although the individual risk to those who received transfusions is lower, the numbers affected are greater. The JCC will seek assurance from the three inherited bleeding disorder services that they are complying with inquiry recommendations. For blood transfusions, JCC will seek assurance from all providers of JCC commissioned services where a patient may have received a blood transfusion or blood product with the potential to transmit hepatitis, that appropriate measures have been taken to identify, test and treat all eligible patients. Where appropriate, the JCC will participate in the Welsh Government group being chaired by the Deputy Medical Director which is overseeing response to the recommendations.

Finally, NWJCC commissions donated sperm and eggs and is seeking assurance on patient safety when using donor products from providers who are not licenced by the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority (HFEA).

2.5 Sexual Assault Referral Service (SARC) Update

The ambition of the Welsh Sexual Assault Service (WSAS) Programme is to deliver person-centred sexual assault services, with health needs as the key priority and to provide the best outcomes for victims of sexual violence.

Working with the JCC team and a range of stakeholders, the WSAS Programme has developed a draft Quality and Delivery Commissioning Framework.

The purpose of this framework is to outline:

- the requirements of... ‘What Good Looks Like’ for sexual assault referral centres,
- assurance for those requirements; and
- achievement of those requirements

The Framework will contribute to WSAS's ambition of creating an agreed set of care standards and activity descriptors, with a uniformed approach to measuring activity via a nationally agreed model of care.

The draft Quality and Deliver Commissioning Framework has been developed via the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) Delivery Assurance Group (DAG) and is currently out for review. The review period closed on Tuesday 25 June 2024. Following the review period, the WSAS Programme will commence with the second stage of the programme, with the implementation of the framework documents. The framework will remain a live document and sections of the framework will be updated in the second stage.

The WSAS Programme has not yet transitioned fully to the JCC and currently remains sitting within the NHS Executive.

2.6 Upgrade works within Princess of Wales Hospital Maternal and Neonatal Unit - Business Continuity

The JCC has been informed of the planned closure of the Maternity and Neonatal Unit within Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, (PoW) Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) from the 2 September 2024 for 12 weeks. This is due to essential maintenance work which needs to be undertaken in both the Neonatal and Maternity Units. The JCC currently commissions four High Dependency Unit (HDU) cots within the PoW and Prince Charles Hospital (PCH) sites within CTMUHB. PCH can flex its cot base from 15 cots to 19 to provide HDU capacity and Special Care based on clinical need. Consultation and communication with all stakeholders is underway alongside Maternity users who this will impact upon. Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) and Cardiff and Vale UHB (CVUHB) have been asked to support the delivery of maternity care based on demand and demographics of the planned maternity users. Work is currently underway within CMTUHB to gain the appropriate data and demographics of the women currently booked to birth during this period. The Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST) and the Neonatal Network are working with CMTUHB to ensure safe delivery and appropriate preparation of pathways to enable safe transfer and clear guidance for the maternity users and clinical teams. Ongoing weekly project meetings have been put in place, and the JCC team have been invited to attend these. Updates from these will be shared within the JCC to understand the impact this will have on current commissioned cots. An early warning notification has gone to Welsh Government (WG), which has also been shared with the JCC.

2.7 North Wales Mother and Baby Unit (MBU)

The development of the new Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) unit in Chester has been delayed due to a material increase in capital costs following submission of the final tender by the current contractor. A £5m gap in funding has resulted in the provider (Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) having to reject the procurement tender and go back to the market for retendering. This

will lead to at least a 6-month delay in the unit becoming operational (from the January 2025 planned date). Women needing a MBU bed from North Wales will continue to use the current arrangements and access beds on a cost per case basis in other English MBUs or have the option to travel to Tonna Hospital in South Wales subject to bed availability.

2.8 Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)

The JCC has received a letter of support from the clinical lead of the National Critical Care, Trauma and Emergency Medicine Clinical Network in support of the development of an Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) service for South Wales. Concurrently the JCC was approached by Guys and St Thomas' Foundation Trust, the usual provider of ECMO services for South Wales patients, and North Bristol NHS Trust which has a new ECMO service which is supported by the existing ECMO centres at St Thomas' Hospital and the Royal Brompton Hospital and commissioned by NHSE. We are in discussions with NHSE to understand the number of Welsh patients likely to require ECMO and with the Wales Critical Care Network to understand the pathways into ECMO. Any decisions about the future commissioning of ECMO services will be evidence-based, informed by population needs assessment and the requirement for sustainable service provision which represents value for money and provides the best patient outcomes. A meeting has been arranged with the National Strategic Clinical Network and other interested parties to set out the current position and next steps.

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen i Nod(au) Strategol CBC /Link to JCC Strategic Goal(s)	Not Applicable
	If more than one applies, please list below:
Dolen i Feysydd Strategol CBC /Link to JCC Strategic Areas	Not Applicable
	If more than one applies, please list below:
Dolen i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol – Nodau Llesiant / Link to Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – Wellbeing Goals 150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf (futuregenerations.wales)	A Healthier Wales
	If more than one applies, please list below:
Dolen i Hwyluswyr Ansawdd (Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Enablers of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Leadership
	If more than one applies, please list below:
Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd	Effective

(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Domains of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	If more than one applies, please list below:
Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)	No - Not Applicable
	If more than one applies, please list below:

Impact Assessment		
Ansawdd Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Ansawdd? / Quality Have you undertaken a Quality Impact Assessment Screening?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	n/a
Cydraddoldeb Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? / Equality Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	n/a
Cyfreithiol / Legal	National Health Service Joint Commissioning Committee (Wales) Directions 2024 National Health Service Joint Commissioning Committee (Wales) Regulations 2024	
Enw da / Reputational	There is no direct impact on the reputation of the Local Health Boards or the Joint Committee as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	
Effaith Adnoddau (Pobl /Ariannol) / Resource Impact (People / Financial)	There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The JCC is asked to:
- **Note** the report.