



Agenda Item
2.3

Joint Commissioning Committee

Interim Chief Commissioners Report

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	21/05/2024
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Jacqui Maunder-Evans, Committee Secretary
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Abigail Harris, Chief Commissioner of the JCC
Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor	Choose an item.

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
n/a		Choose an item.

Acronyms / Glossary of Terms	
CAS	All Answering System
DBS	Deep Brain Stimulation
EASC	Emergency Ambulance Services Committee
IMTP	Integrated Medium Term Plan
JCC	Joint Commissioning Committee
NBNHST	North Bristol NHS Trust
NEPTS	Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service
WHSSC	Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) members with an update on key issues that have arisen since the establishment of the JCC on 1 April 2024.

1.1 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. The purpose of the report is to keep the JCC up to date with important matters related to the JCC. A number of issues raised within this report may also feature in more detail within the Directors' reports as part of the JCC's business.

2. ASSESSMENT

2.1 Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Service

DBS services for people in South Wales with Parkinson's disease and movement disorders have historically been provided by the North Bristol NHS Trust (NBNHST). However, the JCC (previously WHSSC) was made aware of concerns relating to these services, particularly relating to post surgery care. Following several discussions with NBNHST, these were unable to be brought to a timely resolution. As a result, WHSSC needed to identify a temporary solution to ensure new patients from South Wales had access to high quality DBS services moving forward.

Within this context the JCC (previously WHSSC) determined an urgent temporary service change was deemed necessary. This was discussed with Llais Wales who supported this decision. Commensurate with its commissioning responsibilities, the JCC notified NBNHST that it would be undertaking a 'designated provider process' inviting expressions of interest from other NHS providers to formally commission a Functional Neurosurgical service, including DBS services, for people requiring this intervention from South Wales.

This process has concluded and an additional service provider has been designated (St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust). To minimise disruption and maintain continuity for those patients who are already in the pathway or who have undergone DBS in NBNHST, they will continue to receive follow-up care as planned. NBNHST has provided additional assurances in relation to these patients. This is further supported by enhanced scrutiny measures put in place by the JCC.

The next steps are for the JCC team to undertake partnership discussions with NBNHST to gain further commissioner assurance and to explore the opportunities for a NBNHST to become a formally Designated Provider with the aim of putting in place a sustainable service model in the best interests of patients with movement disorders from South Wales.

Llais have been kept informed throughout the process, and in line with their advice, the JCC will be working with Health Boards (HBs) following the discussions with NBSBHT regarding an anticipated targeted engagement with patients and other engagement opportunities with clinicians and key stakeholders relating to the permanent service model. There have been a number of representations

made to the JCC from the movement disorders clinical community, the Parkinson's Society and some political interest with regard to this service. The key stakeholders will be kept informed and engaged with throughout the process. A briefing was also circulated to HBs in April.

2.2 JCC Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP)

Prior to the establishment of the new Joint Commissioning Committee, the status for the Plans of the legacy organisations was each of these is as follows:

- The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) approved by the WHSSC Joint Committee in March 2024,
- the Emergency Ambulance Services Committee (EASC) Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) approved by the EASC Joint Committee March 2024; and
- the National Collaborative Commissioning Unit (NCCU) work plan developed and agreed internally - for noting by the new JCC in May 2024.

The delivery of the legacy Plan remains the responsibility of the JCC and will be monitored via the Planning and Performance Sub-Committee when established (and by the respective Management Groups in the meantime). This will include the commissioning response to the recent requirement from Welsh Government (WG) regarding in-year improvements in service delivery in key areas.

With regard to developing the IMTP for 2025-28, each year WG issues the NHS Wales Planning Framework to NHS organisations in Wales, outlining expectations with regard to the development of IMTPs which set out organisational priorities over a 3 year rolling period, and which triangulate service, workforce and finance planning. The guidance in the Framework extends to the new JCC, and the JCC Standing Orders also stipulate that the JCC must "*determine a long-term strategy for the commissioning of services delegated to the JCC; and produce an Integrated Medium-Term Plan which describes how these services will be delivered on behalf of LHBs through clear 'commissioning intentions', which informs and compliments the LHBs' IMTPs.*"

Given that there is a transitional period for the creation and implementation of both the new JCC and the organisational structure that supports it, it is proposed that the 2025/2026 plan will be developed with an overarching corporate and aligned strategic intent section, and single financial plan, with three implementations plans ('chapters') for:

- Ambulance Commissioning,
- Specialised Services Commissioning; and
- Mental Health and Vulnerable Groups Commissioning (and NCCU)

With the intention that there will be further integration from 2026/2027 onwards.

Work is being undertaken with the NHS Wales Directors of Planning peer group to analyse Performance and Finance and Information to gain feedback on the

legacy planning arrangements and a discussion paper will be presented on the development of the JCC's IMTP at the JCC on 16 July 2024.

2.3 Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS) NEPTS workshop

In December 2023, EASC endorsed the development of a new future vision for Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS), following the formal closure of the 2016 NEPTS Business Case.

On 20 April 2024, the JCC Team held a NEPTS Future Vision Event. This event was the first phase in working in collaboration with NHS Wales organisations and external partners, to shape a new vision for the NEPTS in Wales.

The event was opened by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care and welcomed 60 attendees. The event was attended by representatives from all HBs, Trusts, patient representative bodies, local authorities, WG, Transport for Wales, Community Transport Associations and the Older Peoples Commissioner for Wales. The event provided the opportunity to listen to all stakeholders, to understand the challenges, requirements and opportunities in the current and future delivery and development of patient transport services.

The event provided valuable information (**Appendix 1**), which will aid the JCC in designing a formal document, which will guide the future development of NEPTS. In addition to this event, the JCC Team will be holding further workshops with stakeholders to develop options based on the outcomes of the day and additional feedback from HB questionnaires and Public Health Wales (PHW) patient surveys.

Updates on this work will be provided to the JCC, prior to the development of a formal document for endorsement by the JCC in Q3, 2024.

2.4 111 Update

Members will be aware that the responsibility for the commissioning of 111 call handling and clinical advice transferred to the JCC on 1st April 2024.

The transfer has gone smoothly and there remains close liaison with the former 111 team now part of the urgent and emergency care 6 goal support team in the NHS Executive.

Positive meetings have taken place with policy officials in WG and colleagues in Welsh Ambulance Services Trust (WAST) who run the service.

I am pleased to report that the implementation of the new Call Answering System (CAS) in the last 10 days went well and service continuity was maintained. The new CAS will offer opportunities to enhance existing services and members will be kept up to date with progress.

2.5 Adult Specialised Rehabilitation Services Commissioning Strategy

The JCC is responsible for commissioning Specialised Rehabilitation Services for neurological conditions on behalf of the 7 NHS Wales HBs. Services are delivered by tertiary centres across NHS sites in Wales and England.

The scope of the project included the following adult services:

- Major Trauma and Complex Spinal Surgery Rehabilitation,
- Specialised Neuro Rehabilitation; and
- Specialised Spinal Cord Injuries Rehabilitation.

It did not include Neuropsychiatry or Paediatric Specialised Neurorehabilitation services as these two services are included in the approved Mental Health and Paediatric Services Commissioning Strategies respectively.

The commissioning strategy for adult specialised rehabilitation services will set out JCC overall vision and priorities for the next five years to improve equitable access to high quality specialised rehabilitation services for the adult population of Wales.

The draft strategy is underpinned by an external demand and capacity review which was undertaken by Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust specialist analytics team who carried out a population, economic, demand and capacity modelling to identify any specific barriers to care to support the strategic direction. Colleagues from all HBs and across the clinical disciplines have been involved in the development of the draft strategy along with input from patient groups.

The draft strategy was considered by the WHSSC Management Group in February 2024 and was supported for consideration by the WHSSC Joint Committee in March 2024, however this was delayed due to the transition to the new JCC. The draft strategy is currently being finalised and will be brought to the JCC in July to approve being issued for a six-week period of stakeholder feedback. The final strategy will be brought to the JCC in September for approval to be reflected in the 2025/2026 Integrated Medium Term Plan.

2.6 NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee Implementation

The programme of work to establish the new NHS Wales JCC came to fruition on 1 April 2024. The final WG Oversight Board meeting was held on 30 April 2024 to complete the programme. JCC members received the transitional plan for Quarter 1 2024-2025 at its meeting on 9 April 2024 which incorporates the transitional plan developed by WG and the actions required to ensure the stability and business continuity of the functions to be delivered. In the establishment of new ways of working there is always the potential for risks to arise during the transition period and these will be managed by the JCC team.

As recommended in the Q1 transition plan, a Transition/Transformation Director is being appointed to work with the Chair, Chief Commissioner, JCC and JCC directors to support the development of the JCC Operating Model which will bring the governance framework into operation and ensure delivery of the commissioning plans for 2024/2025. Assurance reports will be reported to the JCC as appropriate.

The Organisational Change Policy (OCP) process is reaching a critical stage, with the process for filling the JCC director roles being finalised. Work has started on the organisational development work with a whole team away day taking planned for 22 May 2024 and a JCC development session planned for 4 June 2024.

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 (Ilyw.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 (Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (Ilyw.cymru)) / Link to Domains of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Effective
	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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Ansawdd? / Quality Have you undertaken a Quality Impact Assessment Screening?	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:

- **Consider** the report and **note** the contents.