

Core brief

Report from February meeting of the NHSGGC Board (2 March 2023, 9.45am)

The Board of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde met on Tuesday, 28 February 2023. The full set of papers are [here](#).

This summary sets out key decisions and issues considered at the meeting.

Chair and Chief Executive's Reports

Professor John Brown CBE reported on his key activities over the past two months, which included regular meetings with the Cabinet Secretary to discuss the response to system pressures, including the challenges we face in delivering urgent care. He also met Professor Chik Collins, the recently appointed Director for the Glasgow Centre for Population Health and Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli and Professor Iain McInnes of the University of Glasgow to discuss progress being made by the Glasgow Health Sciences Partnership.

Professor Brown welcomed new Board Member, Mehvish Ashraf, who joined the Board on 1st January. He also paid tribute to two Board members whose term on the Board is coming to an end. Susan Brimelow leaves the Board after eight years and Amina Khan is moving on after four years.

Jane Grant, Chief Executive, reported on the winter pressures that were still being experienced within the organisation but which were not currently as challenging as in the first weeks of the year. As the current lead Chief Executive for the West of Scotland Health Boards, she was involved in the recruitment of a new Regional Director of Planning, West of Scotland. She congratulated Neil Ferguson, Head of Planning, within NHSGGC, who has been appointed to the position.

Finally, the Chief Executive reported on the significant work that continues in support of the Hospitals Public Inquiry and on the QEUH rectification works and associated legal claims.

Patient Story

Professor Angela Wallace, Executive Nurse Director, presented the [patient story](#). More than 11,000 babies are delivered every year in NHSGGC and this video shows how pregnant women and their partners are being listened to and supported by our staff to have the birth of their choice.



Radionuclide Dispensary Outline Business Case

This Outline Business Case (OBC) details the case to create a modern Radiopharmacy facility to continue the manufacture of radiopharmaceutical medicines and distribution of them to Nuclear Medicine Departments throughout Health Boards in West Central Scotland. The existing Radionuclide Dispensary is a standalone building on NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's former Western Infirmary site. Since April 2016, the grounds on which the current RND Building is located are under ownership and management of University of Glasgow. Operating from this facility for the last 30 years, the RND provides a daily service manufacturing radiopharmaceutical medicines. This level of production is the largest centralised NHS Radiopharmacy in the UK manufacturing 35,000 individual patient doses annually.

Nuclear Medicine is used diagnostically to visualise physiological processes in the body. In most pathological processes physiological change precedes anatomical change and Nuclear Medicine techniques can often diagnose illness and monitor response to treatment before other imaging techniques are able to. The wide range of Radiopharmaceuticals and techniques used make diagnostic Nuclear Medicine

an essential tool on many different care pathways, from the assessment of renal disease through cancer staging to the diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

Therapeutic Nuclear Medicine techniques have a widening role in a growing number of care pathways where they are used both palliatively and potentially curatively to treat conditions including Thyrotoxicosis, Neuroendocrine tumours, bone and liver metastases and a range of other diseases. The delivery of Nuclear Medicine is dependent on the safe and secure supply of radiopharmaceuticals provided by the Radionuclide dispensary. As such the dispensary is an integral point on the care pathway of 35,000 patients per year.

The OBC for the £20.9 million new build to replace the current facility was approved by the Board and this will now go forward to the Scottish Government Capital Investment Group for consideration.

[Click here to read the Board paper.](#)

COVID 19

Dr Emilia Crighton, Interim Director of Public Health, updated the Board on the organisation's response to COVID-19. She reported on a recent increase in COVID prevalence within the community; the latest ONS survey published on 14th February 2023 reported that 1 in 45 people were affected, up from 1 in 55 people previously reported. She also confirmed that arrangements were in place for the Spring booster vaccination campaign.

William Edwards, Chief Operating Officer, reported on the continued impact of COVID on our acute hospitals, with approximately 190 patients currently in hospital with a positive COVID diagnosis within the past 28 days. The stringent infection prevention and control procedures that remain in place meant that, as at 27th February, seven acute hospital wards were closed to new admissions.

[Click here to read the Board paper.](#)

Performance Report

Colin Neil, Finance Director, presented the Performance Report. Issues highlighted were:

- Performance in relation to the number of CAMHS patients seen within 18 weeks of referral (94.9%) continued to exceed the planned position for the fourth consecutive month.
- Compliance with the Psychological Therapies target saw a further improvement to 89.5%.
- The number of scheduled GP Out Of Hours shifts that remained open during December 2022 continued to exceed the 90% target.

- There continue to be no new outpatients waiting more than 104 weeks for a new outpatient appointment in December 2022 and the number of new outpatients waiting more than 78 weeks is within the planned position for December 2022.
- Overall performance continues to exceed each of the acute remobilisation activity targets in relation to new outpatients, TTG and scopes.

The Board discussed performance in relation to the Cancer 62 Day Waiting Times which remained a key area of challenge. Performance relating to A&E four hour waits remained significantly challenged during December 2022 due to the pressures of winter, however this position has seen improvement over the last few weeks. The Board also noted the ongoing significant challenge with delayed discharges.

[Click here to read the Board paper.](#)

Finance Report

Colin Neil, Finance Director, presented the Month 9 Finance Report. He highlighted the progress that the Board has made in reducing the forecast deficit. The deficit has reduced from the £78.4m which was approved by the Board on the 23rd of August 2022 to £15.6m at Month 9. This is a reduction of £62.8m of which £26.0m is as a result of the extensive COVID exit planning that has been taking place with a further £36.8m betterment in the core position.

Further to this, Mr Neil advised that he had since received confirmation of an additional £11million non-recurring funding from the Scottish Government for new medicines. Taking this together with other initiatives and growth within the costs savings programme, Mr Neil was confident that the Board would achieve a breakeven position in cash terms by the financial year end.

[Click here to read the Board paper.](#)

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