

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Paper No. 24/122
Paper Title:	Standing Committee Chair's Board Report
Meeting:	Board Meeting
Date of Meeting:	29 October 2024
Purpose of Paper:	For Assurance
Classification:	Board Official
Name of Reporting Committee:	Acute Services Committee
Date of Reporting Committee:	10 September 2024
Committee Chairperson:	Mr David Gould

1. Purpose of Paper

The purpose of this paper is to inform the NHS Board on key items of discussion at NHSGGC Acute Services Committee.

2. Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the key items of discussion at the recent meeting of the Acute Services Committee on Tuesday 10th September as set out below and seek further assurance as required.

3. Key Items of Discussion

Noted appointment of Mr Graham Haddock as Vice Chair.

3.1 Acute Update

- Verbal Update provided for assurance.
- The Committee noted performance in relation to the 4-hour A&E target has improved.
- The Committee noted that pressure in relation to occupancy rates remained ongoing.
- The Committee received assurance that work remained ongoing to optimise site flow, however noted that Delayed Discharges remains a challenge.

3.2 Acute Services Integrated Performance Report

- Paper provided for assurance.
- The Committee noted the overall compliance with A&E four-hour waits increased slightly from the previous reports position.
- The Cancer 31 Day waiting times position decreased in July 2024 and was below the national target.
- The Committee noted an improvement in Cancer 62 Day waiting times in July 2024, however, performance was challenged due to a significant increase in Urgent Suspicion of Cancer referrals.
- Overall sickness absence levels increased on the previous months' position, and performance remained above the local target.
- The Committee were assured by the update provided.

3.3 Financial Monitoring Report

- Paper provided for awareness.
- The Committee received the month 4 financial position for Acute.
- The Committee noted as at 31st July 2024, the Acute Services finance ledger is reporting a deficit of £34.4m.
- The Committee noted unachieved savings for Month 4 totalled £20m, pay pressures of £7.5m over budget and non pay pressures of £6.9m over budget.
- The Committee noted that a national target was in place to cease agency spend and the Board were working towards the target.
- The Committee discussed the scope of the financial challenge and noted the actions underway to mitigate further overspend.
- The Committee were content to note the update.

3.4 Cancer Performance Update and USOC Referral Review

- Presentation provided for assurance
- The Committee noted the increase in Urgent Suspicion of Cancer referrals were impacting capacity, particularly in diagnostics.
- The Committee noted there had been a change to national guidance and referral exemptions had been removed, which has also contributed to increased referrals.
- The referrals received in July 2024 were higher compared against July 2019. There was a notable increase in Urology and Colorectal referrals.
- The Committee received an update on key focus areas for 31-day performance within Colorectal, Urology, and Breast.
- The GP referral pathways and templates remain under review, with benchmarking work taking place and ongoing learning from best practice nationally.
- The Committee were assured by the update provided.

3.5 Acute Nursing and Midwifery Update

- Presentation provided for assurance
- The Committee received assurance that the nursing workforce was becoming increasingly stable.

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- The Committee noted actions taken to develop the workforce included recruitment campaigns and training and development.
- The NQP recruitment campaign for 2023/24 was successful.
- The Committee received an update on quality measures and noted an improvement in quality data. Patient experience and feedback remained a central focus.
- An overview of the HIS Inspection Reports on work at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Royal Alexandra Hospital, and Glasgow Royal Infirmary was provided.
- The Committee were assured by the update provided.

3.6 Extract from Corporate Risk Register

- Paper provided for approval
- The Committee considered the three risks aligned to the Committee and noted the risk score for In Patient/Day Case Treatment Time Guarantee and Outpatients Scheduled Care Waiting Time Targets reduced.
- There was no change proposed for the risk in relation to Unscheduled Care, however significant work was ongoing to review the risk.
- The Committee were content to approve the Corporate Risk Register.

4. Issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board

There were no issues for referral to other Standing Committees or escalation to the NHS Board.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Acute Services Committee will take place on Tuesday, 12 November.