

ASC (M) 22/01
Minutes: 01 – 11

NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Acute Services Committee
Held on Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 9.30 am
via Microsoft Teams**

PRESENT

Mr Ian Ritchie (in the Chair)

Dr Jennifer Armstrong	Ms Jane Grant
Ms Susan Brimelow OBE	Dr Paul Ryan
Professor John Brown CBE	Mr Mark White
Cllr Jim Clocherty	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Jonathan Best	..	Chief Operating Officer
Ms Sandra Bustillo	..	Director of Communications and Public Engagement
Ms Jacqueline Carrigan	..	Assistant Director of Finance Acute/Access
Dr Scott Davidson	..	Deputy Medical Director, Acute
Ms Lisa Duthie	..	Audit Scotland
Mr William Edwards	..	Director of eHealth
Mrs Jennifer Haynes		Corporate Services Manager - Governance
Ms Liz Maconachie	..	Audit Scotland
Mrs Anne MacPherson	..	Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development
Mrs Angela O'Neill	..	Deputy Director of Nursing, Acute
Mrs Louise Russell	..	Secretariat Officer (Minutes)

			ACTION BY
01.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES		
	Mr Ritchie welcomed those present to the meeting.		
	Apologies were intimated on behalf of Mr Simon Carr, Dr Margaret McGuire and Dr Linda De Caestecker.		
	Mr Ritchie welcomed Mr William Edwards, Director of eHealth, to the Committee. Mr Edwards would attend future meetings in his new		

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	<p>position as Chief Operating Officer following the retirement of Mr Jonathan Best in April 2022.</p> <p>The Committee noted that Ms Paula Speirs had departed from the Committee as she had taken up a new role at the Scottish Government. Mr Ritchie wished Ms Speirs well in her new post.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>		
02.	DECLARATIONS(S) OF INTEREST(S)		
	<p>Mr Ritchie invited members to declare any interests in any of the items being discussed.</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>		
03.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 16 NOVEMBER 2021		
	<p>The Committee considered the minute of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 November 2021 [Paper No. ASC (M) 21/04] and were content to approve the minute as an accurate record.</p> <p><u>APPROVED</u></p>		
04.	MATTERS ARISING		
a)	Rolling Action List		
	<p>The Committee considered the Rolling Action List [Paper No. 22/01].</p> <p>The Committee were content to approve the closure of the five items on the Rolling Action List.</p> <p><u>APPROVED</u></p>		
05.	URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS		
	<p>No items raised.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>		
06.	ACUTE COVID-19 UPDATE		

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	<p>Mr Jonathan Best, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the current position in respect of the NHSGGC response to managing COVID-19 in Acute Services, and provided assurance to members of the actions being taken in response to COVID-19.</p> <p>Mr Best informed the Committee that challenges and pressures on services had increased due to COVID-19 and winter pressures. As at 18th January 2022, there were 510 COVID-19 positive in-patients and a total of 1083 COVID-19 positive inpatients across all Acute sites. Mr Best advised that there was a total of 19 patients in ICU, 14 of whom had tested positive in the last 28 days. Mr Best assured the Committee that daily meetings continued to take place with the local teams to continue to manage the current challenges.</p> <p>Mr Best informed the Committee that as at 18th January 2022, a total of 19 wards were closed due to COVID-19. The Committee noted that this increased pressures and had an impact on staffing and patient placement.</p> <p>The Committee noted that delayed discharges had been impacted due to the closure of admissions at 88 care homes within Greater Glasgow and Clyde due to COVID-19.</p> <p>Mr Best highlighted that the number of staff self-isolating had vastly reduced. It was noted that the new rules for isolation and positive uptake of the booster vaccination had contributed to this.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the infection rate was reducing. Mr Best reported that the infection rate was currently 1100 per 100,000 for GGC which was a substantial reduction compared to recent figures. Mr Best highlighted however that there would be a delay on this having an impact on demand within Acute services.</p> <p>Mr Best assured the Committee that support continued to be provided to the COVID-19 booster vaccination programme. The Committee noted that there was good uptake of the booster vaccination.</p> <p>Mr Best noted thanks to all members of staff for the hard work and dedication throughout the festive period and the month of January. He assured the Committee that support would continue to be provided to staff throughout these challenging times.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding the Royal Hospital for Children, Mr Best reported that the Hospital was performing well. The level of</p>	

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	<p>COVID-19 cases were low and RSV numbers had been lower than anticipated.</p> <p>The Committee were content to note the update.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>		
07.	PERFORMANCE		
	a) Acute Integrated Performance Report		
	<p>Mr Mark White, Director of Finance, presented the Acute Services Integrated Performance Report [Paper 22/02] that provided a summary of performance against the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) outlined in Remobilisation Plan 4 (RMP4).</p> <p>The report included the 15 key performance indicators. The current performance against the indicators and the projected performance as at 31st March 2022 was summarised in the report.</p> <p>Mr Ritchie agreed to discuss presentation of the information in relation to access to cancer services further with Mr White following the meeting.</p> <p>The Committee recognised the challenges ahead for the Board. The Committee were assured that work was taking place to clear the surgical backlog of the 62 day cancer pathway and the endoscopy waiting list, however members noted that there was a pause on elective surgery in order to utilise the wards for COVID-19. The current focus would remain on cancer patients and trauma. Following learning from the previous wave, endoscopy and some ophthalmology services had continued throughout the recent wave. The Committee were assured that a daily review was carried out to monitor the situation.</p> <p>The Committee were content to note the performance across Acute Services in relation to the key priorities outlined in the Performance Assurance Framework.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>		
08.	FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT		
	<p>Ms Jacqueline Carrigan, Assistant Director of Finance Acute, presented the Financial Monitoring Report for month 8 to the end of 31</p>		

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	<p>November 2021 [Paper 22/03] which set out the Acute revenue position and progress with the Financial Improvement Programme (FIP).</p> <p>Ms Carrigan advised that the overspend at the end of month 8 was £14.4 million. The Committee noted that there was unachieved savings of £15.8 million.</p> <p>In response to a question in relation to Junior Doctor pressures, particularly in the North Sector, Ms Carrigan reported that there were gaps which were currently being filled by Bank and Agency staff. The Committee noted that this was a perennial issue, therefore a Workforce Group had been established to consider the issue further. Dr Scott Davidson, Deputy Medical Director – Acute, agreed to provide a progress report at a future meeting. The Committee noted that progress with the group had been slightly delayed due to the pandemic. The Committee noted there was a national shortage across all Health Boards. Dr Jennifer Armstrong, Medical Director, informed the Committee that the Scottish Government had committed funding to create additional trainee doctor posts to support services. The trainee doctors would commence in medical specialities. It was anticipated that this would help with creating compliant rotas.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding funding for waiting time initiatives, the Committee noted that any unused funding for this financial year would be rolled into the next financial year. The Committee noted that funding had been received for a mobile endoscopy unit, supported by Vanguard, to be based at Gartnavel Royal Hospital. It was expected that this would be fully established in February 2022 and the service would run 5 days per week. The Committee noted the first key area of focus would be bowel screening to assist with clearing the backlog of patients. A further question was raised regarding capacity and whether clinical staff would be providing this service, and the Committee noted that locum nurses and endoscopy nurses would support the service. The Committee noted that decontamination had been additionally funded by Scottish Government.</p> <p>In response to a question in relation to elective orthopaedic patients being treated on the Gartnavel site, the Committee noted that planning for this had been paused.</p> <p>The Committee were content to note the Acute revenue position at month 8 and the Acute position with the Financial Improvement Programme (FIP) at month 8.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>	<p>Dr Davidson/ Secretary</p>

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		ACTION BY
09.	EXTRACT FROM CORPORATE RISK REGISTER	
	<p>Mr White presented the Extract from the Corporate Risk Register for the Acute Services Committee [Paper 22/04] for the Committee to consider and confirm that they were content that the risks were clearly described and that the risk scores were appropriate.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding external capacity at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital (GJNH), the Committee noted that the GJNH had tried to maintain the service level agreement (SLA) for cataracts (see and treat), hips and knees, some basic general surgery and the osteosarcoma service, however they were also experiencing staffing issues. Mr Best assured the Committee that monthly SLA figures were received and regular meetings were held to monitor and address this. It was hoped that regular work would recommence when the challenges due to the current wave of COVID-19 had reduced.</p> <p>In response to a question in relation to the re-opening of Ward 2A and 2B, the Committee noted that this was being discussed by the Project Board and an update would be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee were content to note and approve the current extract of the Corporate Risk Register and were sufficiently assured that the risks were clearly described; the risk scores were appropriate; that the proposed mitigating actions were framed in SMART terms and it was clear how these would address the risks; that alignment to the Corporate Objectives was appropriate; and that alignment to the risk type was appropriate.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>	Mr Best/ Mr Edwards
10.	CLOSING REMARKS AND KEY MESSAGES FOR THE BOARD	
	<p>Mr Ritchie asked members to raise any other competent business. There was no other business noted.</p> <p>The key messages for the Board were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee noted that Acute Services continued to work efficiently and effectively, recognising the increasing COVID-19 challenges. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee noted that COVID19 infection rates were declining, however there was a delay on this having a positive impact on demand within Acute Services. • The Committee noted significant concerns regarding the number of ward closures, however it was noted that this was improving. • The Committee noted challenges with Delayed Discharges due to care home sector issues. • The Committee noted that there had been a reduction in the number of staff self-isolating. • Support continued to be provided to staff and the general population in relation to the booster vaccination programme. • The Committee recognised the vast amount of work ongoing to address the cancer and endoscopy backlog. The Committee recognised the challenges due to other elective work being paused due to COVID-19, therefore this would need to be addressed in the future. • The Committee recognised the financial support provided by the Scottish Government during the pandemic. • The Committee noted pressures with North Sector staffing, however were assured that plans were in place to address these issues. The Committee would receive an update report in due course. <p>Mr Ritchie noted that this was the last Committee meeting that Mr Best would attend due to his upcoming retirement. Mr Ritchie noted thanks to Mr Best for his valued contribution, particularly in managing the recent difficulties. The Committee wished Mr Best well on his retirement.</p> <p>The Committee also noted that this was the last Committee meeting for Mrs Jennifer Haynes, Corporate Services Manager – Governance, as she had taken up a new post at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital. Mr Ritchie thanked Mrs Haynes for her contribution in managing the Committee and supporting the work of the Board.</p> <p>Mr Ritchie thanked members for attending and closed the meeting.</p> <p><u>NOTED</u></p>	

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			ACTION BY
11.	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING		
	The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 22 March 2022 at 9.30 am via Microsoft Teams.		