

Core brief

Tuesday, 16 August 2016

Introduction

This issue of Core Brief provides information from today's Board meeting.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board met today, Tuesday 16 August 2016. [All the Board papers are available on our website.](#)

Below are some of the important highlights from the meeting.

Chief executive announces retiral

Chief executive Robert Calderwood announced his retirement at the board meeting today.

After 45 years NHS service and eight years as Chief Executive of NHSGGC Mr Calderwood will start his retirement in February 2017.

Chairman John Brown said he appreciated Robert's experience and his knowledge and the personal support he has given to him since becoming Chairman.

Engagement process for service changes approved

The Board approved a paper outlining a process of engagement in relation to four proposed service changes. The service changes at the Community Midwife Units in Inverclyde and the Vale of Leven; paediatric services at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, Lightburn Hospital and the removal of inpatient beds at the Centre for Integrative Care were previously agreed at part of the Board's Local Delivery Plan.

NHSGGC issued a press release regarding this paper [which can be viewed here](#) and the paper outlining the approach to engagement can be viewed here ([Paper No: 16/45](#))

Unscheduled care programme progress

Depute Medical Director Dr David Stewart presented a paper outlining the work he is leading to improve patient flows to help us consistently meet the unscheduled care target of 95 per cent.

He outlined that the work was wide ranging and had involved teams across the acute sector but also with colleagues in the Scottish Ambulance Service and Primary Care. Dr Stewart informed the Board that the analysis and data collection would result in actions to improve patient flows prior to the onset

of winter and the associated increase in winter pressures. Board members were also informed that the work of the teams involved in this programme also included attention to the efficiency of pharmacy prescribing, discharge letters and portering activities.

[View the full Board Paper 16/46](#)

Immunisation success

Childhood vaccination programmes are proving highly successful across Greater Glasgow and Clyde with very high levels of uptake and strong evidence of effectiveness. In particular the Human Papillomavirus Virus (HPV) vaccine in protecting against the chances of cervical cancer in later life.

Cervical Cancer smear testing rates have declined in recent years with the uptake rate lowest in areas of deprivation. The universal HPV vaccination programme in schools therefore addresses inequalities issues and was described as a dramatic success story. Board members were reminded that although the HPV vaccine aims to protect girls from the two main types of HPV that cause 75 per cent of cases of cervical cancer it does not protect against all cervical cancers and so cervical screening is still important.

The paper updates on uptake levels and analysis on a range of immunisation programmes including childhood flu vaccination. [The paper can be viewed here \(Paper 16/51\)](#)

Finance challenge remains

A report from the Director of Finance Mark White informed the Board that we reported a deficit of £9.5m for the first quarter of the year.

The Board, at this point, continues to work toward a balanced budget for 2016/17 but it is apparent that we will be reliant on non-recurring sources of funding and reserves to achieve in-year balance this financial year. There is a real risk the Board enters 2017/18 with minimal reserves.

[Full paper can be viewed here \(Paper 16/55\)](#)

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