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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board



Meeting Date	27 April 2021	Agenda Item	4.3
Report Title	Controlled Drug Governance and Assurance (Progress Report)		
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Presented by	Judith Vincent (Clinical Director for Pharmacy & Medicines Management & Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer)		
Freedom of Information	Closed		
Purpose of the Report	This paper provides a progress report on the strengthening of controlled drug governance arrangements across the Health Board in line with the approach agreed at Senior Leadership Team on the 5 th November 2020.		
Key Issues	The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008 place a statutory responsibility on the Health Board and its Controlled Drug Accountable Officer to ensure the safe management and use of controlled drugs. As previously agreed with the Senior Leadership Team in early 2019, controlled drug governance requires strengthening across the Health Board in order to provide the necessary assurance regarding compliance with this legislation.		
Specific Action Required <i>(please choose one only)</i>	Information	Discussion	Assurance
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations	Members are asked to receive this progress report detailing the actions taken to strengthen controlled drug governance across the Health Board.		

Controlled Drug Governance and Assurance Progress Report

1. INTRODUCTION

The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008 place a statutory responsibility on the Health Board and its Controlled Drug Accountable Officer (CDAO) to ensure the safe management and use of Controlled Drugs (CDs). It has been identified by the CDAO that CD governance needs to be strengthened across the Health Board in order to provide the Board with the necessary assurance regarding compliance with this legislation. This paper documents progress made since November 2020.

2. BACKGROUND

Agreement was sought and received from the Senior Leadership Team during 2019 for the CDAO to work with Service Groups around strengthening CD governance across the organisation. In late 2019 the CDAO consulted with key stakeholders including triumvirate and governance colleagues about a proposed new Health Board CD Governance Framework. Feedback was largely positive, however, before this framework could be formally ratified and implemented, the COVID-19 pandemic arrived.

The unprecedented operational pressures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have led to significant delays in the implementation of strengthened CD governance. It should be noted though, that whilst these additional pressures are significant, the requirement to ensure the Health Board's CD governance is robust has never been more important. New ways of working such as, staff redeployment, re-purposing of clinical/non-clinical areas and restrictions on staff movement related to infection control have all had an effect on CD management.

In light of this, the CDAO reviewed the CD Framework and proposed an adapted model for the implementation of strengthened CD governance that would be more suited to the 'new normal' created by the COVID-19 pandemic. This new phased model was agreed at the Senior Leadership Team meeting in November 2020.

During the early part of 2021, the CDAO met collectively with the Service Group Directors and individually with representatives of the four Service Group senior management teams. These meetings were both productive and encouraging as all Service Groups demonstrated a willingness to review CD governance and strengthen where required.

At the above meetings all Service Groups committed to provide the following to the CDAO by the 1st April 2021:

- 1) The name of the new Service Group CD lead from the senior management team.

- 2) A signed copy of a Service Group Controlled Drug Governance & Assurance Charter (template provided by the CDAO).
- 3) A copy of the Service Group's Controlled Drug Management and Assurance Plan.
- 4) A timeline for the Service Group's phased implementation of strengthened controlled drug governance.

At the time of writing the following has been received by the CDAO:

	Nomination of Service Group CD Lead	CD Governance & Assurance Charter	CD Management and Assurance Plan	Timeline of strengthened CD governance
Singleton/Neath Port Talbot	Received	Received	Received	Received
Morriston	Received	Update from SG anticipating that these will be completed by the end of April		
Primary Community & Therapies	Received	Received	Update from SG that they have established a CD governance group that will deliver this as part of its work plan (1 st meeting end of April)	
Mental Health & Learning Disabilities	Received	Received	CD management added as standing agenda item at SG Q&S. Plan to be completed.	

Whilst not all the actions have been completed, each Service Group have appointed a senior CD lead who the CDAO will be able to work with over the coming months to progress the strengthening of CD governance.

The CDAO has also indicated to Service Groups that they intend to hold the first, of what will be six monthly CD governance and assurance meetings, with each Service Group during the first quarter of 2021/22.

3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES

The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008 place a statutory responsibility on the Health Board and its Controlled Drug Accountable Officer to ensure the safe management and use of controlled drugs. Strengthening of controlled drug governance is required across the Health Board in order to move towards a fully compliant position against these statutory responsibilities. The actions taken to date and future plans outlined in this paper will

mitigate this risk of non-compliance through strengthening the Health Board's controlled drug governance.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008 state that the Health Board must provide its Controlled Drug Accountable Officer (CDAO) with the funds and other resources necessary to enable the CDAO to carry out their responsibilities as its CDAO. It goes on to say that those other resources may include access to and use of information systems, accommodation and staff. Inevitably this proposal will require a significant amount of time from both staff supporting the CDAO, Service Groups and corporate colleagues. Without specific new investment, this additional time will need to be found from within the existing establishment and managed against other high priority areas. In recognition of this, the new phased approach to implementing strengthened CD governance is designed to deliver improved governance within a context of existing service pressures and competing priorities.

5. RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to:

- **Note** the progress report detailing the actions taken to strengthen controlled drug governance across the Health Board.

Governance and Assurance		
Link to Enabling Objectives <i>(please choose)</i>	Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities	
	Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Co-Production and Health Literacy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people	
	Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Partnerships for Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Excellent Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Care Standards		
<i>(please choose)</i>	Staying Healthy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Safe Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Effective Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dignified Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Timely Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Individual Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff and Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quality, Safety and Patient Experience		
Action taken to strengthen controlled drug governance across the Health Board will include improvements in the quality and safety of care provided, as it relates to controlled drugs and hence the patient experience.		
Financial Implications		
No additional funding has been secured for the strengthening of CD governance. The implementation will require a significant amount of time from both staff supporting the CDAO, Service Groups and corporate colleagues. Without specific new investment, this additional time will need to be found from within the existing establishment and managed against other high priority areas. In recognition of this, the phased approach being taken is designed to deliver improved controlled drug governance within a context of existing service pressures and competing priorities.		
Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)		
The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008 place a statutory responsibility on the Health Board and its Controlled Drug Accountable Officer to ensure the safe management and use of controlled drugs. Strengthening of controlled drug governance is required across the Health Board in order to move towards a fully compliant position against these statutory responsibilities.		
Staffing Implications		
The strengthening of CD governance will require a significant amount of time from both staff supporting the CDAO, Service Groups and corporate colleagues. In recognition of this, the phased approach being taken is designed to deliver improved controlled drug governance within a context of existing service pressures and competing priorities.		

Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015)

- **Long Term** - The Health Board will have strengthened controlled drug governance in line with requirements of, ‘The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008.’
- **Prevention** – Strengthened controlled drug governance will help to prevent controlled drug incidents.
- **Integration** – Integrating the requirements of, ‘The Controlled Drugs (Supervision of Management and Use) (Wales) Regulations 2008,’ with the existing governance mechanisms of the Health Board will strengthen overall controlled drug governance.
- **Collaboration** – The approach being taken will encourage collaboration between Service Groups in the development of strengthened controlled drug governance.
- **Involvement** – Health Board wide involvement in the development of strengthened controlled drug governance will produce a synergistic effect at a whole system level.

Report History

- Presentation made to the SLT in March 2019 regarding concerns about controlled drug governance.
- Paper presented to SLT on the 6th November 2019 entitled ‘Controlled Drug Governance: Update Report’ – this paper outlined the previous concept of a Health Board CD Governance Framework.
- Paper presented to SLT on the 5th November 2020 entitled, ‘Controlled Drug Governance and Assurance’ – This paper set out the new phased approach to strengthening CD governance.

Appendices

N/A