

Reporting Committee	Quality Patient Safety Committee
Chaired by	Emrys Elias
Lead Executive Director	Director of Nursing & Quality
Date of Meeting	14 April 2020

Summary of key matters considered by the Committee and any related decisions made

1. Committee Arrangements

Due to COVID-19 the original meeting 17 March was postponed on the day. All the papers were distributed to all members in preparation for the meeting. This Committee meeting was held with a shortened 'consent agenda' and on a 'quorum basis' in line with the current Terms of Reference and the WHSSC Standing Orders. The arrangements for the meeting reflected the work undertaken by the Board Secretaries Group, in conjunction with Welsh Government, developing a number of governance principles that are designed to help focus consideration of governance matters over coming weeks and months during the COVID-19 crisis. The Chair, Independent Member and 5 members from WHSSC were present to be quorate compliant.

2. Development Day/Self-Assessment

Due to COVID-19 this event has been postponed (Date TBC).

3. COVID-19 contingency planning

The committee received an update on the work that WHSSC had been doing in response to COVID-19. The response plan was shared with committee members who acknowledged the plan and the work being undertaken to develop a risk assessment of WHSSC commissioned services during the pandemic. Members were informed that ensuring accurate and up to date information from all providers in both Wales and England was proving difficult. Members noted that assurance was still being sought to ensure that an accurate understanding of commissioned services could be gained. Most importantly to ensure that essential, lifesaving treatments continued and to provide an accurate baseline for the re-establishment of specialised services when provider capacity allowed. Members also noted that in addition some members of the WHSSC were providing support outside of the organisation in both clinical and national policy development roles.

4. Neonatal Review

Members received a summary presentation as well as a copy of the full report which recommended the need for a 24-hr service. The Joint Committee had endorsed the recommendations on 10 March. Members were informed that the establishment of a 24/7 neonatal transport service remained a high priority for WHSSC and is one of the programmes that would continue during the COVID-19

outbreak, but it was recognised that this would be challenging. Members noted that a project initiation document had been produced for the planning and implementation of the permanent service and terms of reference developed for a task and finish group to take forward this work. The aim would be for this group to meet virtually to make progress. Members were also aware that Joint Committee had agreed to the commissioning of an interim 24/7 model however the committee was informed that both the current transport providers and WAST had notified WHSSC, via the Neonatal Transport sub group of the Maternity & Neonatal Network, that due to capacity constraints they would be unable to commit to an extension of the service at this time. They remained committed to engaging in the planning for the permanent 24/7 service.

5. Updates from the Renal & Trauma Network

An update was received on both networks. The increased workload on the renal network was acknowledged and it was noted that transplant services were currently suspended.

6. Commissioning Team updates

Reports from each of the Commissioning teams were received and taken by exception. Members noted the information presented in the reports and a summary of the services in escalation is attached to this report. The key points for each service are summarised below:

- **Cancer and Blood**

It was noted that the paediatric sarcoma service at Birmingham's Children Service was able to receive referrals from 24 February and the surgical service will recommence on 20 April. As a result, the service would be de-escalated and return to normal service provision. The position will be monitored through the commissioning team thereafter.

- **Cardiac**

Members were reminded that the TAVI service in SBUHB was placed in escalation level 3 on 05 February. A copy of the Royal College report commissioned by SBUHB and a draft service visit report was received by WHSSC prior to the quality escalation meeting on 08 April. A key issues paper had been taken to SBUHB on 26 March and the action plan was being monitored by the Quality Patient Safety Committee. It was noted that vascular cut-down was currently suspended whilst a further review was being undertaken. It has been agreed that a detailed update will be provided to the committee by SBUHB representatives once the work had been completed.

- **Mental Health & Vulnerable Groups**

Due to the COVID-19 situation a decision had been made to suspend the implementation of the revised Tier 4 Service Specification. An update was received that as a result of COVID-19 an NHS Wales National Mental Health Coordinating Centre had been set up and WHSSC were part of that group. Members of the committee received a detailed update on a high cost, complex case and received

assurance that plans were in place for the ongoing placement. The bespoke arrangements for the placement were exceptional and the Health Board had signed off the clinical agreement for the placement. There was however a need to progress with a contingency plan in the event of the current provider serving notice on the current arrangements.

- **Women & Children's**

The Cochlear Service in CTMUHB remains in escalation level 4. No further information had been received from the Health Board.

7. Other Reports received

Members received reports on the following:

- **CRAF**
- **CQC/HIW Summary Update**
- **WHSSC Policy Group**

It was noted that the current circumstances would allow WHSSC to progress policy development and scope the clinical outcome and experience indicators.

- **Concerns and SUI report**

The report received highlighted a case that had been referred to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. Information had been sent back to them however a response had not yet been received from the PSOW whether they were going to investigate further.

Key risks and issues/matters of concern and any mitigating actions

Summary of services in Escalation (Appendix 1 attached)

Matters requiring Committee level consideration and/or approval

None

Matters referred to other Committees

None

Confirmed Minutes for the meeting are available from <http://www.whssc.wales.nhs.uk/quality-and-patient-safety-committee-con>

Date of next scheduled meeting:	09 June 2020
--	--------------