

POWYS TEACHING HEALTH BOARD

SUMMARY OF THE EXPERIENCE, QUALITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2020 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Committee Meetings of Powys Teaching Health Board are meetings held in public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. However, the COVID-19 Public Health emergency and the associated instruction to Stay at Home has meant that Board resolved to hold the Experience Quality and Safety Committee on 6 November 2020 virtually and in private with a summary of the proceedings made available within a week of the meeting.

Present:

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| Melanie Davies | Vice-Chair (Committee Chair) |
| Trish Buchan | Independent Member (Committee Vice-Chair) |
| Frances Gerrard | Independent Member |
| Susan Newport | Independent Member |

In Attendance:

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| Alison Davies | Director of Nursing and Midwifery |
| Carol Shillabeer | Chief Executive |
| Clare Lines | Assistant Director Commissioning Development |
| Hayley Thomas | Director of Planning and Performance |
| Rani Mallison | Board Secretary |

Apologies for absence:

None

Committee Support:

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| Holly McLellan | Senior Administrator/Personal Assistant to Board Secretary |
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SOUTH POWYS PATHWAYS PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive and Assistant Director Commissioning Development presented the previously circulated paper which provided an update on the South Powys Pathways Programme, following the announcement of the accelerated opening of The Grange University Hospital in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

The Chief Executive advised that the paper provided updated information in relation to risk management and readiness. It also confirms the PTHB assumptions about expected Powys patient flows (in Phase 1) following the accelerated opening of The Grange University Hospital (GUH).

The Chief Executive explained that the Director of Planning was participating in a meeting on system readiness involving other Health Boards and would join the meeting shortly and handed over to the Assistant Director Commissioning Development who advised that before the COVID-19 pandemic Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) had established a South Powys Pathways Programme Board. Chaired by the CEO, involving the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST), Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB). The Programme Board had been convened to prepare for changes: anticipated under the South Wales Programme; in response to the opening of GUH in Spring 2021; and under the Powys Health and Care Strategy.

The winter of 2020/21 will be extremely difficult due to the COVID 19 pandemic. This year has been one of unprecedented challenge for all and civil contingency arrangements remain in place. GUH is key to ABUHB's COVID winter response and approval was given on the 27th August 2020 to bring forward the GUH opening to the 17th November, 2020.

Responding to the early opening of the Grange was identified as a key strategic priority for the whole board of PTHB. Following the announcement PTHB amended the scope and phasing of its Programme Board to focus, in Phase 1, on the changes needed in a compressed timescale to emergency and urgent care flows.

Following public consultation five health boards and WAST had approved, in 2014, recommendations in relation to the future configuration of consultant-led maternity and neonatal care, inpatient children's services and emergency medicine (A&E) for South Wales and South Powys. Under this Prince Charles Hospital (PCH) in Merthyr Tydfil was recognised as being of

strategic importance for South Powys offering the nearest District General Hospital (DGH) for the majority of the South Powys population.

The opening of GUH results in changes to Nevill Hall Hospital (NHH) DGH in Abergavenny which becomes a "Local General Hospital". Whilst it will continue to provide a range of outpatient, diagnostic, admission and day case surgical services for South Powys patients it will no longer be the closest DGH with a Consultant led Emergency Department and for emergency admission (including paediatrics).

The PTHB Programme Board had a series of workstreams including patient flows; clinical-operational pathways; and communication and engagement. (A maternity workstream had also been established but was working to a different time-frame). There remained only one programme risk above 15, as the impact of the "fire-break" on reducing the rate of COVID-19 infection would not be known until after the 9 December 2020.

In summary, the assumptions and expected patient flows for PTHB are:

- There should be alignment with the outcomes of the South Wales Programme
- "Time critical" journeys by WAST (usually "Reds" and "Amber 1s") will be to the closest District General Hospital (DGH) with an Emergency Department (ED). For most of South Powys this will be Prince Charles Hospital (PCH).
- PCH is also the closest DGH for most South Powys WAST calls classified as "Amber 2s, 3s and Greens" (helping to ensure ambulances are away from Powys for the least time possible).
- Once the changes at NHH in Abergavenny take place, the closest DGH ED for the majority of patients who are "walk-ins" from South Powys will be PCH.
- PCH will be the main DGH ED and hospital for paediatric emergency flows for most of South Powys.
- Powys GPs may refer adults, fitting the clinical criteria, in hours, to the NHH MAU.
- Powys patients will use the PTHB Minor Injury Units (MIUs) where appropriate

PTHB will work closely with CTMUHB to accelerate movement of patients back to Powys from the PCH ED and wards.

The Director of Planning confirmed that formal confirmation of the change going ahead was expected by the week-ending 13 November 2020, ahead of the key changes taking place by 17 November 2020.

The Committee NOTED the report and ENDORSED the progression of the South Powys Pathways Programme.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

3 December 2020, 13:30 – 16:30 via Microsoft Teams.