

NHSL AND WEST OF SCOTLAND INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY (IR) SERVICE REVIEW

Summary For NHS Lanarkshire Board

There is a National shortage of Interventional Radiologist consultants, with only 3wte consultants in post. Interventional Radiologists are Clinical Radiologists who have undergone specialist training in the practical elements of IR. IR encompasses a wide range of procedures which range from frequent urgent procedures to rare complex interventions. Since April 2019 NHS Lanarkshire has not had an Out of Hours (OOH) Interventional Radiology service and this is recorded as a very risk.

As part of the programme of work for the West of Scotland region Interventional Radiology (IR) was identified as a key area for review. A Short Life Working Group was established within the West of Scotland to develop a plan to deliver a modern, fit for purpose model for IR Service across the West of Scotland which addresses the challenges faced by the service, sets out a way forward that will deliver a more stable and sustainable IR Service which will meet the needs of the population served and will create a more attractive service model from which to build the future service; improving recruitment and retention to the service.

For the purpose of this exercise the West of Scotland Boards are Ayrshire & Arran, Dumfries & Galloway, Forth Valley, Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Lanarkshire and Highland (A&B). The population served by the Boards within this review is circa 2.7m.

The key service model assumptions are recommended:

- A hub and spoke model of Interventional Radiology will be provided across the Region.
- All NHS sites will provide daytime Acute IR Services.
- Emergency Out of Hours care will be provided from the hub sites.

Meetings are being scheduled by the Director of Regional Planning to discuss the proposed service model assumptions with clinical and managerial representatives from each Board.

The agreed service model paper will be presented to the Chief Executives at the August meeting.