

Lanarkshire NHS Board

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**Draft Minute of the Meeting of the Area Clinical Forum held on
 Thursday 15th April 2021 at 2.00pm via MS TEAMS**

PRESENT

Mrs M Lees	Chair, Area Allied Health Professions Advisory Committee (Chair)
Dr A Campbell	Vice Chair, Area Psychology Services Committee
Ms C James	Member, Area Allied Health Professions Advisory Committee
Mr F Munro	Chair, Area Ophthalmic Committee
Mrs M McSherry	Member, Area Nursing & Midwifery Committee
Dr K McIntyre	Chair, Area Medical Advisory Committee

IN ATTENDANCE

Dr J Burns	Executive Medical Director
Mr P Cannon	Board Secretary

APOLOGIES

Dr J McGuire	Member, Area Healthcare Sciences Advisory Committee
Dr S Percival	Ex-Officio Member of the Area Dental Committee
Dr C Stark	Chair, Area Psychology Services Committee
Dr G McCurragh	Chair, Area Healthcare Sciences Advisory Committee
Mr A Macintyre	Chair, Area Pharmaceutical Committee

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Mrs Lees welcomed Members to the meeting. She welcomed Dr Alison Campbell to her first meeting representing the Area Psychology Services Committee, and Mrs McSherry who was representing the Area Nursing & Midwifery Committee. It was noted that the Area Nursing & Midwifery Committee was being reconstituted and Mrs McSherry was assisting in drawing together the Committee for its first meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 18 FEBRUARY 2021

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4. HUDDLE AND OTHER KEY COVID-19 DATA

Members noted a suite of information relating to Covid Public Health data and the Board's own daily reports.

Dr Burns provided a detailed overview of the key Hospital data, including the number of inpatients being treated, and details about local outbreaks across NHS Lanarkshire. She also provided an overview of the prevalence in Care Homes and it was noted that all of these metrics were declining in number as the vaccination programme was being rolled out. It was noted that the 7-day average per 100,000 was declining also, and this was good news in relation to easing restrictions.

Dr Burns then provided an update on the latest vaccination delivery programme position. It was noted that this was progressing well, and that the Board was working through the JCVI cohorts. Dr Burns highlighted that NHS Lanarkshire was the joint top Board for reaching the JCVI milestone in March 2021. To date over 388,000 doses had been provided to citizens. Members noted that there was an interruption in supply, which was anticipated to be the case in April, and that this, coupled with the recent changes in the Astra Zeneca use, was reducing the capacity slightly, but the delivery of the vaccine was going to plan overall. Mrs Lees commented that it was always anticipated that the supply chain would have within it peaks and troughs and Boards were managing these proactively by matching appointment schedules.

There was a discussion about variants and the impact that this might have on community prevalence, and Dr Burns stressed the need to limit cross border travel, and the dangers in importing from abroad different strains and variants, which was the case in the summer of 2020 when in Scotland the virus had been successfully suppressed.

Mrs Lees thanked Dr Burns and Members for their contributions.

5. RECOVERY ISSUES

Each Member was invited to contribute comments on their own areas in relation to recovery issues.

Mrs McSherry raised Hospital Visiting and the feedback from mothers had been that they preferred restricted visiting in the maternity service, rather than to go back to more open visiting, which was counterintuitive in many respects. Mrs McSherry also highlighted that the service was closely monitoring key data and trends to establish if there had been any reluctance to engage with Maternity services during the pandemic.

Dr McIntyre spoke about long covid and the impact that this will have on primary and secondary care services, and stated that primary care was already noticing an increase in physiotherapy referrals. He also stressed that it was important to support services/disciplines in renewing their own services and recovering. He also raised the issue of space in all care settings and suggested that the NHS look to innovate in establishing services in non-traditional bases such as sports halls and other public sector facilities / buildings, as social distancing may be required for some time.

Dr Burns agreed that the service needed to look to new ways of working, and new patient pathways, and reported that under the Gold Command structure a group had been set up to discuss referral systems and pathways and capacity issues, with a particular emphasis on the appropriate use of diagnostics services.

Mr Munro reported that all routine optical care was available in the community and he paid tribute to the work that the Board supported in establishing Emergency Treatment Centres

which had helped community providers significantly. He added that the services were operating at about 70% – 80% of pre covid workload and the restrictions imposed by social distancing made it impractical to be able to return to full workload in the near future. He also reported that up to 6 community practitioners had not renewed their contracts and that his colleagues main concern was that there may be patients who have not come forward for treatment who are now presenting late.

Mrs Lees thanked Members for sharing their updates.

6. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE REFRESH

Members had been provided with an SBAR that had been discussed by the Corporate Management Team on the refresh of the Board's Strategy Achieving Excellence. Mrs Lees outlined the approach being adopted and stated that the Forum would be consulted formally in due course.

7. REMOBILISATION PLAN 3 FORMAL RESPONSE LETTER

Forum Members were provided with a copy of a letter from John Connaghan, NHS in Scotland Chief Operating Officer, dated 2 April 2021, which provided feedback on the third iteration of NHS Lanarkshire's Remobilisation Plan (RMP) covering the period April 2021 to March 2022. The letter was noted. Mrs Lees stated that version 4 of the Plan was already in development.

8. FINANCIAL PLAN 2021 – 2022

Forum Members were provided with a copy of the March 2021 Board Finance paper which was noted. It was pleasing to note that the Board, despite the covid pressures and demands, would be reporting that it had met all three financial targets.

9. NHSL BIODIVERSITY REPORT 2018-20

Forum Members were provided with a copy of the March 2021 Board Biodiversity Report which was noted. There was a great deal of interest in the paper, and it was agreed that Marie Porteous should be invited along to a future meeting to provide the Forum with an update on Sustainability issues.

10. WHISTLEBLOWING STANDARDS - MARCH 2021

Forum Members were provided with a copy of the March 2021 Board Whistleblowing Standards Report which was noted. There was a great deal of interest in this issue, and it was agreed that Ms Lesley McDonald, the Board's Non Executive Whistleblowing Champion should be invited future meeting of the Forum.

11. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Forum Members were provided with a copy of a paper that was discussed at a recent Corporate Management Team meeting, from the Centre for Sustainable Development, which Mrs Lees highlighted was a new service hosted within the Golden Jubilee Foundation. It sought to bring together a number of initiatives and developments at a national level and also

included an NHS Academy, as part of the Foundation's portfolio. Mrs Lees agreed to keep Forum Members updated on this national development.

12. TUC DYING TO WORK CHARTER

Forum Members were provided with a copy of a letter from the Scottish Partnership Forum (SPF) co-chairs, dated 30 March 2021, which welcomed the announcement from the Health Secretary on 24 March 2021 that NHS Scotland will adopt the TUC Dying to Work Charter and that this will be fully implemented in all Health Boards across Scotland. The letter was noted.

13. NATIONAL ACF CHAIRS MEETING(S) UPDATE

Mrs Lees provided an update based on discussion at the National Chairs meeting held 10 March 2021. It was noted that the main issues at that time were the Covid-19 responses by Boards, and Remobilisation, and it was also noted that the next meeting would focus on Staff Wellbeing.

14. MONKLANDS REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mrs Lees provided a verbal update to bring Forum Members up to speed with the way in which the Board was progressing with the development of an Outline Business Case.

15. DG LETTER TO NHS - COO APPOINTMENT AND DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS - APRIL 2021

Members received and noted a letter from the NHS in Scotland Director General dated 9 April 2021 confirming a number of key appointments in the Health & Social Care Directorate.

16. UPDATES FROM PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Allied Health Professionals Committee - Ms James reported that the last meeting of the Committee had to be cancelled due to pressures on the services involved.

Dental Committee - there was no update as Dr Percival had to submit her apologies.

Healthcare Sciences Committee - there was no update as Dr McCurragh had to submit his apologies.

Optometric Committee - Mr Munro provided a detailed update as part of the item on Recovery Issues, but added that there were a number of shared care arrangements that were working extremely well in delivering local care and preventing Hospital admissions (around 2,000 discharges had been taken forward by community input and review), and the continued success of the LENS service. It was also highlighted that over 100 Community Opticians had expressed an interest in vaccinating citizens and around two thirds were being allocated shifts.

Medical Committee - Dr McIntyre highlighted the discussion being taken forward very positively around the redesign of urgent care, the Vaccination Transformation Programme (and the impact that the Covid vaccination programme has had, particularly in relation to the deployment of Advanced Nurse Practitioners), and GP Premises.

Nursing & Midwifery Committee - Mrs Lees reported that a refresh the membership of the Group was underway and the Director of Nursing had tasked a senior nurse with refreshing the Committee.

Pharmaceutical Committee - there was no update as Dr Macintyre was unable to join the meeting

Psychology Services Committee - Dr Campbell reported that Dr Graham had stepped down as Chair of the Committee and she and Mrs Lees paid tribute to the efforts that Dr Graham had invested in refreshing the Committee, it was pleasing to note that this was now a vibrant and well attended Committee that was contributing to the development of the service overall. Mrs Campbell also highlighted that the service was moving towards a blended approach with face to face appointments now being offered, as well as continuing to offer virtual appointments through Near Me. Mrs Campbell also highlighted the increasing use of the web site *Mind Matters*, which was an excellent resource for patients and staff.

17. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There were no items raised.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 June 2021 at 2.00pm by Teams.