



## CLINICAL AND CARE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 11 March 2025. Minute of Meeting of the CLINICAL AND CARE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE. Present:- Mark Burrell Chairperson; and Councillor Jennifer Bonsell and Councillor Lee Fairfull.

In attendance: Caroline Howarth, Claire Wilson, Rachael Little, Elaine Morrison, Shona Omand-Smith, Kay Diack, Vicki Johnstone and Mark Masson (Clerk).

**Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.**

### WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1. The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Professor David Blackburn, Lizzy Archibald and Martin Allan.

The Clerk advised that Lizzy Archibald had replaced Lynn Morrison as the Allied Health Professional Lead on the Committee.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

2. There were no declarations of interest or transparency statements intimated.

### MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 17 DECEMBER 2024, FOR APPROVAL

3. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 17 December 2024, for approval.

In relation to article 8(ii) of the minute, the Clerk advised that the briefing note providing an update on the Care Home had been circulated to members on 24 February 2025.

**The Committee resolved:-**  
to approve the minute.

### BUSINESS PLANNER

4. The Committee had before it their Business Planner for consideration.

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**The Committee resolved:-**  
to note the Business Planner.

### CCG GROUP MONITORING REPORT - UPDATE - HSCP.25.015

5. The Committee had before it a report by Caroline Howarth and Arlene Hurst which presented data and information to provide assurance that operational activities were being delivered and monitored effectively and that patients, staff and the public were being kept safe whilst receiving high quality service from Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP). The full sector reports were appended to the report.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Committee –

- (a) agree this report provides assurance to the committee that work is being undertaken to mitigate any risks; and
- (b) highlight any observations on the information contained in the report and in appendices A and B.

Caroline Howarth provided an overview of the report, specifically relating to the following:-

- Staffing Pressures and Further Reduction to the Working Week;
- Integration of the hosted in-patient mental health services;
- The overall number of complaints, compliments and concerns across both Aberdeen City Council (ACC) and NHS Grampian; and
- The Operational Risk Registers.

In response to a question, Shona Omand-Smith provided information regarding predominant virtual services relating to podiatry, which was helping to reduce waiting lists.

Caroline Howarth provided further information regarding the GP Vision Patient Management System.

The Committee then discussed the issues surrounding Abortion Care Services in Moray; the ongoing work to prevent pregnancy in Grampian; and staff absences in relation to Mental Health Services, particularly making reference to the introduction of initiatives which have helped to reduce absences at the Royal Cornhill Hospital.

**The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) that in relation to the Substance Misuse Service, to note that Claire Wilson would circulate details to Councillor Bonsell regarding the source of the ring fenced monies to increase staffing to the recommended level and to support service redesign and implementation has been offered; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the recommendations contained within the report.

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### LESSONS LEARNED

6. In the absence of Martin Allan, the Chairperson made reference to the current wording on the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership website as follows:-

"Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership are required by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman to publish on a quarterly basis information on complaints outcomes and actions taken to improve services. The focus of this should be on improving positive communication with customers on the value of complaining, on promoting good practice and lessons learned. This could take the form of case studies, examples of how complaints have helped improve services, or 'you said, we did' notifications"

Members discussed whether there were any themes or lessons learned, during which the following was raised:-

- it was recognised that there were pressures on staff; and
- it was acknowledged that the initiatives introduced at Royal Cornhill Hospital had been well received.

**The Committee resolved:-**

to note the information provided.

### GENERAL AND SPECIALIST MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES (MHLDS) – DISCHARGE WITHOUT DELAY REPORT - HSCP.25.017

7. With reference to article 9 of the minute of the previous meeting of 17 December 2024, the Committee had before it a joint report by Claire Smith, Lead Nurse and Kay Diack, Strategic Home Pathways Lead, which provided an update on improvement activity within Specialist Mental Health and Learning Disability services as well as General ACHSCP services in relation to the national strategic oversight of Discharge Without Delay (DWD).

**The report recommended:-**

that the Committee –

- (a) note the latest data regarding the rate of delayed discharges across Specialist MHLDS services and general ACHSCP services; and
- (b) agree that this report provides assurance to the committee regarding the progress made against the improvement plans to lower the number of delayed discharges.

Kay Diack provided an overview of the report, explaining that there had been a significant reduction in delayed discharges at Royal Cornhill Hospital and other City partnership facilities, however as an update to the report, which stated that there were 49 delayed discharges, she intimated that as of today, they had been further reduced to 39.

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Kay made reference to the benchmark figure of 45 delayed discharges set by the Scottish Government in May 2024; and a slightly updated action plan to be submitted to the next meeting, which will incorporate national collaborative working, being driven by Douglas Loudon, NHS Tayside.

Claire Wilson highlighted the significant streamlined improvements which had been made as a result of the focussed and targeted work now being undertaken by hospital social work, instead of community social work.

**The Committee resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations contained within the report.

### **CCG CARE HOME COLLABORATIVE UPDATE - HSCP.25.016**

8. With reference to article 8 of the minute of the previous meeting of 17 December 2024, the Committee had before it a report by Elaine Morrison, Lead Nurse, which provided an update on the current status of two care homes in Aberdeen, including mitigations put in place to deal with issues highlighted and the current status of both.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Committee –

- (a) agree this report provides assurance to the Committee that work is being undertaken to mitigate any risks; and
- (b) highlight any observations on the information contained in the report.

Elaine Morrison provided a summary of the report and she and Claire Wilson responded to questions from members.

**The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) to acknowledge the significant input from the respective teams in relation to the successful and timely movement of patients following the recent closure of a care home; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the recommendations contained within the report.

### **ITEMS WHERE ESCALATION TO IJB IS REQUIRED**

9. The Committee considered whether any items required escalation to the IJB.

**The Committee resolved:-**

that no items be escalated to the IJB at this time.

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**AOCB - SIGNIFICANT EVENT ANALYSIS REVIEW**

**10.** The Chairperson raised the issue of Significant Event Analysis Reviews (SEAR's), seeking further information from those present in terms of whether they would be submitted to the Committee for assurance/monitoring purposes and whether there were any issues, risks or concerns relating to reviews being conducted in the City.

It was noted that SEAR was a term and process/policy used by NHS Grampian (Secondary Care), and Aberdeen City Council Social Work undertake Significant Case Reviews.

Rachael Little provided information on the SEAR policy advising that further details could be found in the NHS Grampian Management of and Learning from Adverse Events Policy.

**The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) to note that Caroline Howarth and Rachael Little would raise the issue of SEAR's at the next meeting of the Clinical and Care Governance Group to determine whether there were any concerns or issues relating to capacity/timing etc; and
  - (ii) to note that Claire Wilson would also liaise with Judith Mclenan on whether she could provide an update on SEAR's in due course.
- **MARK BURRELL, Chairperson**