



NHS Shetland Board

COVID-19 Pandemic Action Minutes

Action (A) / Information (I) / Decision (D)

10/07/20 2pm via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Gary Robinson (Chair), Malcolm Bell, Dr Kirsty Brightwell, Colin Campbell, Lincoln Carroll, Lorraine Hall, Jane Haswell, Ian Sandilands, Edna Mary Watson

Apologies: Michael Dickson, Shona Manson and Natasha Cornick.

Mr Dickson represents all Executive and Stakeholder Board Members during the pandemic period who are not in attendance.

Declaration of Interests: None

Action tracker (actions removed once they have been reported as completed)

Date / paper ref	Action	Action Owner	Date closed	Comment
No.6 15/05/20	Internal auditors to be approached regarding conducting online training for NEDs.	LC	ongoing	Initial offer from auditors to conduct training in early June. Further discussion to be had by NEDs on what training requirements are.
	Non Executive Board Member appraisals to be concluded and training plan created.	GR/LH	ongoing	All appraisals had been paused by SGov due to pandemic. Appraisals starting to be set up for those who require them and NEDs were reminded to complete and submit self-assessments if not already done so.
26/06/20 20/21/14	Media to be invited to public Board session in August.	CH/PM	Complete	
26/06/20 20/21/15	Look at ways to provide the board with a set of monthly operational performance indicators with a narrative around those declining	ER/CH/ CC	Ongoing	ER and CC to meet to discuss the most useful format to report this information to the Board

Agenda / paper ref	A/I/D	Discussion/Rationale	Action Owner	Date closed
No. 4. (20/21/16)	I	COVID-19 Pandemic Briefing Ms Robinson provided an update on the current position. Of particular note:		

Agenda / paper ref	A/I/D	Discussion/Rationale	Action Owner	Date closed
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new positive cases recorded in Shetland but numbers continue to go up in Scotland all be it at a slower rate. • England still has approx. 5,000 new positive cases a day and there is concern that as things open up the spread may continue. • PH team continue to be prepared for another new case in Shetland in any time. • Messages from SGov about working from home if you can, social distancing, hand washing, cough hygiene etc continues to be the advice for Shetland. <p>Mrs Hall thanked Elizabeth for preparing these regular briefings for the board and also to Mr Dickson for the Facebook Live broadcasts which have ensured there was ample information available to the local community.</p> <p>Mrs Hall assured members that now services are being stepped up again, redeployed staff across health and care are returning to their normal jobs. Work is ongoing with managers and occupational health to undertake risk assessments to manage shielding staff back into workplaces across health and care in a cautious and person centred way.</p>		
		<p>Mr Sandilands asked if there was any national guidance on Covid testing for pre op assessments as currently there is testing done at both 2 weeks and 1 day which has caused confusion amongst some members of the public.</p> <p>Ms Robinson explained this was due to the very small estate we have and the need to have a green pathway and a red pathway to minimise risk to all healthcare workers. Patients are tested 14 days prior to their procedure, told to self-isolate and tested again the day before their procedure. This decision was based on advice from Professor Haughey and is reviewed continually.</p>		
		<p>Mr Bell repeated his concerns that the balance had perhaps not been found locally between the advice on staying at home as much as possible and the benefits to the economy and individuals' mental health of returning to work or recreation.</p> <p>Mr Sandilands added that it was important to try to support those people who can't afford to stay home and the impact this can have on their health.</p> <p>Elizabeth said the advice in the paper was the current SGov advice and advises that if people can work safely from home then they should which is what the board is working towards with risk assessments etc.</p>		
		<p>Mrs Haswell sought assurance of the current process for discharge of patients from hospital to a care home setting.</p>		

Agenda / paper ref	A/I/D	Discussion/Rationale	Action Owner	Date closed
		<p>Ms Robinson explained the procedure and how staff across teams work together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient must have 1 negative test for Covid-19 (if they have never tested positive in the past) • Patient must have 2 negative tests (if they have tested positive for Covid-19 in the past) • Any patient entering a care home (including from home) must isolate for 14 days and be barrier nursed in case symptoms develop • An audit was conducted to ascertain if there were any patients discharged from hospital to Wastview which may have resulted in the positive cases there. It was established this was absolutely not the case. 		
		<p>In response to a question from Mr Robinson on testing of care home staff, Ms Robinson reported that the rate was currently around 45%. The Care Home Assurance Group who meet weekly are looking at providing extra admin support to care homes to assist with registering staff to be tested to increase the uptake.</p>		
General		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Haswell asked that board members receive information on the readmission rates (7 days after discharge from hospital) and assurance whether this was within normal expectations. • Information Governance and Awareness Training: Mrs Hall assured members that EMT would be cascading the message through silver and bronze command to all staff to complete this essential training via TURAS. Governance of this issue would also be flagged through Staff Governance Committee. 	CH/KC EMT	
		<p>Date of next meeting The next 'transitional' Board meeting will take place on Tuesday 18th August via MS Teams and would include more of the normal governance reporting to the board.</p>		