

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD: 14 MAY 2015

ADJUSTMENT TO EMERGENCY ADMISSIONS BASELINE FOR THE BETTER CARE FUND PLAN – URGENT ACTION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of the urgent action taken by the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, to approve increasing the total non-elective admission target within the Better Care Fund to 2,041.

Policy Framework

2. The County Council's Constitution, which applies to the operation of the Health and Wellbeing Board, gives power to the Chief Executive to take action between meetings which he considers is urgent after consultation with the Chairman of the Board.

Background

3. At its meeting on 12 March, the Health and Wellbeing Board was asked to consider increasing the target for non-elective admissions from 1,911 to 2,041. This was because the trend in non-elective admissions had shown an increase during 2014 of approximately 6.8% when compared to 2013; meaning that a 3.5% reduction was now a total of 2,041. The Health and Wellbeing Board was advised that there was confidence that the revised target could be achieved.
4. The meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 12 March was not quorate during discussion of this item. The quorum of the Health and Wellbeing Board is a quarter of the membership including at least one elected member from the County Council and one representative of the Clinical Commissioning Groups. No representative from the Clinical Commissioning Groups was present. It was therefore not possible for the Board to take the decision and, due to the urgent need to get the revised baseline into place; the Chief Executive of the County Council was therefore asked to use his powers to take the decision required by the Board.

5. The decision could not wait until the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board because the baseline needed to be included in the Operating Plans of the Clinical Commissioning Groups. These had to be submitted by 5th April 2015 and had to contain the same target as that set out in the Better Care Fund Plan.

Views of Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board

6. Those members of the Health and Wellbeing Board present at the meeting indicated their support for the proposal. They requested that the Chief Executive sought the views of the Clinical Commissioning Groups before taking the decision. Representatives of the Clinical Commissioning Groups, when consulted, also expressed their agreement with the proposal.

Recommendations

7. It is recommended that the urgent action taken by the Chief Executive, as now reported, be noted.

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