

Report to the NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group on 26 November 2020

Title: Chief Executive's Report	Enclosure D
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Clinical Lead:	N/A
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Summary and Purpose of Paper

The paper sets out items of note arising since the last meeting which are relevant to NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and to its health service commissioning activity on behalf of the Somerset population.

Recommendations and next steps

The Governing Body is asked to **Note** the Chief Executive's report.

Impact Assessments – key issues identified

Equality	N/A			
Quality	N/A			
Privacy	N/A			
Engagement	N/A			
Financial / Resource	N/A			
Governance or Legal	N/A			
Risk Description	N/A			
Risk Rating	Consequence	Likelihood	RAG Rating	GBAF Ref
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of items of note arising during the period to 11 November 2020 and information on my activity during this period.

2 NATIONAL

Covid-19 pandemic

- 2.1 The country entered a second national lockdown due to rising rates of Coronavirus on Thursday, 5 November 2020. This is due to last until 2 December 2020.

- 2.2 Rates of the virus have been rising across Somerset, and as a result, we have seen increased demand on health and care services in all our settings across the county.

- 2.3 Health and care services across the county are working closely together to respond to the increasing demand and ensure that services remain safe.

NHS in England moves to highest alert level

- 2.4 On 5 November 2020, the NHS in England moved back to alert Level 4. This means the NHS moved from a regionally managed but nationally supported incident under Level 3, returning for the time being to one that is co-ordinated nationally.

- 2.5 The move supports inter-regional mutual aid across the NHS in England as required. Potential or current capacity/service issues will continue to be escalated to regional and national teams through established incident escalation routes.

UK threat level raised

- 2.6 The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) has advised that the UK Threat Level should be changed from SUBSTANTIAL (an attack is likely) to SEVERE (an attack is highly likely). Further information regarding this change is available at <https://www.mi5.gov.uk/threat-levels>

New guidance on the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)

- 2.7 NHS England and Improvement has this week issued new guidance for General Practice on the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, identifying two

additional groups of people who should now be considered as CEV in relation to Coronavirus.

- 2.8 They are adults with stage 5 chronic kidney disease and adults with Down's syndrome (DS). GPs are required to review and update their Shielded Patient Lists (SPL) accordingly. They are also encouraged to identify, contact and flag adults with DS and offer a flu jab and annual health check where needed.
- 2.9 Patients who have been notified that they are CEV, should register their details at the government website to receive further updates and support: www.gov.uk/coronavirus-shielding-support
- 2.10 Refreshed guidance for CEV (previously shielded) patients can be found here. Most children originally identified as CEV no longer need to stay out of school; and this only applies to those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still CEV. Children who live with someone who is CEV should also still attend school.

3 LOCAL

Operational Pressures Escalation Level (OPEL)

- 3.1 OPEL shows the amount of pressure being experienced by hospital, community and emergency health services. OPEL Level 1 is the lowest level of pressure on the system. OPEL Level 4 is the highest.
- 3.2 As at Wednesday ,11 November 2020, the escalation level for the whole of Somerset was OPEL Level 3, described as:

The local health and social care system is experiencing major pressures compromising patient flow and continues to increase. Actions taken in Level 2 have not succeeded in returning the system to Level 1. Further urgent actions are now required across the system by all A&E Delivery Board partners, and increased external support may be required. Regional teams in NHS E and NHS I will be aware of rising system pressure, providing additional support as deemed appropriate and agreed locally. The national team will also be informed by DCO/sub-regional teams through internal reporting mechanisms.

Open letter to the people of Somerset

- 3.3 On 5 November 2020 we issued our first open letter to the people of Somerset from ourselves, Somerset County Council, Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
- 3.4 The letter has been translated into Portuguese, Bulgarian, Polish and Romanian to support better engagement with our communities for whom English is not their first language.

3.5 The letter thanks everyone for their support for the NHS during the pandemic, provides reassurance on how to safely access services and shares the latest information on our response to the pandemic.

Representing the CCG

3.6 I have represented the CCG at a variety of internal and external events, including the following meetings:-

- Stronger Somerset discussion with Alex Parmley, Chief Executive of South Somerset District Council
- Somerset ICS Executive Meeting
- Next steps in the NHS response to COVID-19 webinar with Amanda Pritchard (NHS Chief Operating Officer)
- Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Annual Members' Meeting
- Meeting with NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit re support to Somerset system
- Fit for My Future Relaunch Workshop
- SWAG Cancer Alliance Board Meeting
- Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust AGM
- South West Regional Chief Executive's Meeting
- Somerset Phase 3 Recovery Planning Meeting with NHS England/Improvement
- Attendance at 'Our Shared Endeavour 2' event
- West of England Institute of Technology (IoT) Launch
- South West & South East Regional Roadshow with Simon Stevens (NHS Chief Executive) and Amanda Pritchard (NHS Chief Operating Officer) re priorities around restoration of services and the continued response to Covid-19
- South West System Leads Meeting
- IAPT discussion with Somerset NHSFT and NHS England/Improvement
- Joint Commissioning Exec to Exec Meeting with Somerset County Council
- SASP webinar
- Health and Wellbeing Executive Meeting
- SW Mental Health Programme Board Meeting
- Somerset COVID-19 Engagement Board
- Fit for My Future Programme Board Meeting
- Somerset ICS Designation: Confirm and Challenge session with NHS England/Improvement

- Somerset SEND Commissioning Arrangements – Rapid Research Workshop
- SEND Improvement Board
- South West Leadership Academy Systems Leadership Programme Meeting
- Severn CEO Network Meetings
- Interview with BBC Radio Somerset
- MSc Public Health Teaching event
- Meeting with Marcus Fysh MP
- SW HWB Network Challenges and opportunities of ICSs and system-based working meeting
- CCG/LMC Liaison Meeting

19 November 2020