

Report to the NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group on 28 January 2021

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 13 January 2021 and information on my activity during this period.

2 NATIONAL

Covid-19 pandemic

- 2.1 The country entered a third national lockdown due to rising rates of Coronavirus on Thursday 05 January 2021. There is no official end date to the lockdown but it is expected to last for at least six weeks.
- 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.

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 13 January 2021, 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. National team will also be informed by DCO/Sub-regional teams through internal reporting mechanisms.

Covid-19 vaccination programme

- 3.3 On 09 December 2020 we started rolling out the biggest vaccination programme in the nation's history in Somerset.

- 3.4 Our Covid-19 vaccinations started at Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust which was one of the first 50 hospital hubs in the country. Jean Cook, aged 84, was one of the first people in Somerset to receive the Covid-19 vaccine.
- 3.5 From 15 December 2020 our GP-led community vaccination sites launched. Within a fortnight nine of our thirteen primary care networks had completed the first round of their vaccination programme. All thirteen primary care networks are now vaccinating people in line with the prioritisation of the Joint Committee on Vaccines and Immunisations.
- 3.6 On 18 January 2021 our first large scale vaccination site opened at Taunton Racecourse.
- 3.7 Colleagues from across NHS services in Somerset, colleagues from Somerset County Council and our four district councils as well as partners and volunteers from Spark Somerset and hundreds of local organisations and many more individuals have been and continue to work extremely hard to roll out the vaccination programme as quickly and as safely as possible. We are deeply grateful for their dedication, commitment, good humour, kindness and flexibility.

Open letter to the people of Somerset

- 3.8 On 22 December 2020 we issued our second open letter to the people of Somerset from ourselves, Somerset County Council, Somerset NHS Foundation Trust, Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Somerset Primary Care Board.
- 3.9 The letter focused on how people could support us to keep everyone as safe as possible alongside reassurance on how to safely access services and also shared the latest information on our response to the pandemic.

Director of Commissioning

- 3.10 I am delighted to welcome Neil Hales to NHS Somerset CCG as interim Director of Commissioning for a period of around six months whilst we go out to advert for a permanent replacement. The Director of Commissioning role replaces the previous role of Chief Operating Officer on the Governing Body, incorporating most of the responsibilities of the previous COO role but preparing the CCG Director team for the enhanced role of strategic commissioning expected of Integrated Care Systems.

Representing the CCG

- 3.11 I have represented the CCG at a variety of internal and external events, including the following meetings:-
- South West Regional Chief Executives Meeting
 - CCG/LMC Liaison Meeting
 - South West System Leads Meeting
 - ICS Shadow Board Meeting

- National COVID response webinar: Covid-19 Update for System Leaders
- Somerset ICS Executive Meeting/SVOC Gold Meeting
- National ICS Network – STP & ICS Executive Leaders and Chairs Network Meeting
- South West CCG Leads meeting to discuss *Integrated Care* consultation
- Health and Wellbeing Executive Meeting
- Severn CEO Network Meeting
- North Partnership Board Meeting
- ASLRF Combined Covid-19 / EU Exit SCG Meeting
- South West Regional People Board Meeting
- AO/Chairs Meeting with NHSCC to discuss NHSE proposals
- Session for SW CEOs – looking after staff and ourselves: AWP Trauma Response Group – actions to prevent and respond to traumatic experiences during Covid-19
- NHSE/I webinar - COVID-19 - Update for System Leaders (Vaccination update; EU Exit update)
- ICS Leaders Session: Engagement opportunities on NHSEI paper on ICS development and the proposals for legislative change
- SEND Improvement Board Meeting
- Mental Health Programme Board Meeting
- South West Imaging Network Launch Event
- Somerset COVID-19 Engagement Board Meeting
- Meeting with NHSE/I re Somerset COVID Plan
- Severn Network/ICS Discussion
- Mass Vaccination Clinical Assurance Meetings – Wellington, CLIC, Wincanton
- Severn CEO Network Meeting re Critical Care Escalation
- National Vaccination Senior Team Informal Update
- Regional Roadshow with Sir Simon Stevens & Amanda Pritchard
- Somerset Demand and Capacity Meeting with NHSE/I
- National COVID response webinar: Operational priorities and next steps on surge
- Somerset HIP2 Strategic Sense Check Meeting with NHSE/I
- SEND Parent Engagement Event
- Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting

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