Proud to be part of
Somerset Integrated Care System

NHS Somerset

Our Ref: JH/jch/230323-18

23 March 2023

Wynford House
Lufton Way
Lufton
Yeovil
Somerset
BA22 8HR

Tel: 01935 384000

somicb.enquiries@nhs.net

Rachel Pearce
Regional Director Commissioning (South West)
NHS England

(via email to: Rachel.pearce12@nhs.net)

Dear Rachel

NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board is keen to embrace the opportunities that POD delegation will bring, particularly the opportunity to collaborate and integrate services to improve provision and access for the population of Somerset. Please find enclosed the signed delegation agreement and memorandum of understanding for Somerset, which has been shared with our Board members via email. The delegation agreement, this letter and the risk register will also be discussed at next week's public Board meeting.

In conjunction with our SW ICB colleagues and the regional team, we have been making preparations for delegation over the last 12 months. Whilst much progress has been made, we recognise that there are still some significant areas of work that need to be encapsulated within a transition plan. Our delegation agreement and MOU has been signed with the following understanding:

- A transition plan will be jointly developed and address the amber/red ratings identified within the final version of the Safe Delegation Checklist, with the first draft being available before the end of March 2023.
- The transition plan will include specific workstreams relating to information governance, clinical governance (Including risk management processes, patient safety, complaints management post 1 July 2023), decision-making/governance structures and management of conflicts of interest.
- The transition planning framework will have a structure to ensure actions are progressed at pace and monitored accordingly.
- The Data Processing Agreement is finalised and signed by 31 March 2023.
- Whilst a structure chart has been received, there has not been clarity on the current level of vacancies within the structure. We ask that the hub structure at at 1 April 2023 is appended to the MOU.
- The risk register was received on 22 March 2022 and we note that there are 6 risks rated at 16 and 2 risks rated at 20. The ICB will need to review the detail of this risk register and may require further assurances through the transition plan as a result of this review.

We recognise that there are separate discussions regarding the hosting of the hub from 1 July 2023 so we do not plan to comment on this area specifically as part of our response to the delegation agreement.

We remain committed to working with the NHS England regional team, Collaborative Commissioning Hub staff and fellow ICBs in the South West to ensure we operate as 'one team' to achieve our shared ambitions for health and service improvement this year.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Higman
Chief Executive

Encs

Copy: Bernie Marden, Chief Medical Officer
Suresh Ariaratnam, Non-Executive Director
Tanya Whittle, Deputy Director of Primary Care and Contracting