

Report To:	Governing Body Meetings in Common
Report Title:	Accountable Officer's Report
Report From:	Adrian Stokes, Interim Accountable Officer
Date:	20 th May 2020
Previously Considered by:	Not applicable

Action Required (<i>delete as appropriate</i>)							
Decision:		Assurance:		Information:	✓	Confidential	

Purpose of the Report:
The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Governing Bodies with information on key activities undertaken by the Accountable Officer since the last Governing Body meetings in common in March 2020, and any pertinent issues not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
Key Points:
The following items are for the attention of Governing Body Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Phase of NHS Response to Covid-19 • Approach to Risk Management • Merger Update • Look back at CCG engagement in Phase 1
Recommendation:
The Governing Bodies are requested to NOTE the report.

Implications							
Objective(s) / Plans supported by this report:	Constitution, Leadership IAF Domain						
Conflicts of Interest:	None identified.						
Financial:	Non-Recurrent Expenditure:	Not applicable.					
	Recurrent Expenditure:	Not applicable.					
	Is this expenditure included within the CCG's Financial Plan? (<i>Delete as appropriate</i>)	Yes		No		N/A	✓
Performance:	None identified.						
Quality and Safety:	None identified.						
Equality and Diversity:	General Statement: The CCG is committed to fulfil its obligations under the Equality Act 2010, and to ensure services commissioned by the CCG are non-discriminatory on the grounds of any protected characteristics. Policies/decisions may need to be adjusted in line with any equality analysis or due regard. Any decision that is						

	finalised without being influenced by appropriate due regard could be deemed unlawful.						
	Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken? <i>(Delete as appropriate)</i>	Yes (attached)		No		N/A	✓
Patient and Public Engagement:	None identified.						
Clinical Engagement:	See Key priorities and issues						
Risk and Assurance:	Risks on the Assurance Framework- AF3, AF9						

The following items are for the attention of Governing Body Members:

- Second Phase of NHS Response to Covid-19
- Approach to Risk Management
- Merger Update
- Look back at CCG engagement in Phase 1

Second Phase of NHS Response to Covid 19

The CCG plays a crucial role in response to the Simon Stevens letter of 29th April. The following sets out a shortened version of the key responsibilities that are key at each level of our system, Andrew Harkness will add more granular detail in his report;

- System level (Through Partnership Executive Group) – Strategic assessment of covid/non covid facilities and pathways, optimal use of private sector capacity, working across other Integrated Care System (ICS) areas in response to Specialised Service reviews, review vulnerable services in the light of ongoing covid numbers, ensure ongoing mutual aid on key issues (Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), drugs, equipment), testing strategy to avoid second peak and embedding the enhanced working relationships that have developed further during phase 1. **Lead Adrian Stokes**
- Place Level (Through Place Boards) – Strong infection prevention and control (IPC) measures to avoid transmission, safe restart to services where possible, backlog assessment and planned recovery, embedding positive changes made during covid and enhance where possible, particular focus on maintaining stronger discharge arrangements, ensuring Place governance captures views of all partners in pathway enhancements and embedding the enhanced working relationships that have developed further during phase 1. **Leads Andrew Harkness and Jenni Northcote**
- CCG Level (Through internal Board reporting through to Governing Body) – Resetting working arrangements in light of ongoing social distancing, embedding positive process changes, restarting critical CCG services and safe withdrawal of some mutual aid and most importantly facilitating the CCG role in supporting our places. I am determined to ensure that we use the opportunity of reset to deliver things better in the future that we did before. **Lead Andrew Harkness**

All of this has to be done within a governance structure that leads on from the strong governance in phase 1, has a strong public and patient engagement strategy at the heart of it and has staff welfare as a crucial element of everything we do.

Approach to Risk Management

As an Executive team we have been reviewing our approach to risk management for a number of months and would like to use the reset to fast track some of those developments, the following are key in our approach;

- Utilising our new objectives in risk profiles as agreed in recent Governing Body meetings and using the reset to go further and faster on delivery (eg our technology advancements have been rapid in phase 1),
- Raising the profile of our risk assessments by putting risk registers at the start of each Committees Agenda so that it drives the right conversations within meetings,
- Stronger Executive ownership of those risks, the responses to risks and keeping the risk registers a live document that supports our overall governance.

I would encourage the Governing Body to run with this over forthcoming meetings as this embeds and hopefully we will have the same impact as we did when we brought forward the flash reports from individual committees in focussing debate and discussion even further.

Merger Update

Whilst the response to Covid has certainly reduced the level of time invested to date and the ability to respond to some of the key components of the Business Case (eg suspension of financial processes, ability to engage actively etc.) I wanted to inform the Governing Body that we have been in constant discussion with NHS England/Improvement and it is still our intention to fully proceed for a merger from April 1st 2021 and we are working closely with them on how we can do this and recognise that this could involve a modification of the ask within the application. The process of Accountable Officer recruitment is ongoing and is a crucial next step.

Look back at CCG engagement in Phase 1

I would like to finish with a massive thank you to all staff and all Governing Body members, the list of things we have achieved, the support we have given, the services we have maintained and the way we have adapted as an organisation has been very impressive. There are countless people who have gone above and beyond what their current role is, they have done this without question and have done the CCG proud. I would like to find a moment and a way once a level of normal returns to mark these achievements and find a way of recognising what people have done more formally. I would encourage Governing Body members to get involved in that process (whatever that may be).