NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board met today, Tuesday 16 February 2016. All the Board papers are available on our website.

Below are a few of the important highlights from the meeting.

Double boost to local communities
The prospect of two new health centres – one in Clydebank and one in Greenock – took a step closer today when NHSGGC’s Board approved initial agreements that will now go forward to the Scottish Government Capital Investment Group.

The Clydebank centre will be built at Queen’s Quay and in Greenock a local site option process continues to decide on the best of the options available. It is expected a preferred site will be able to be identified by early March.

Costing a total of £40m the two centres are regarded as hugely significant for the local populations they will serve as existing health centre facilities are old and unfit for purpose in meeting the changing needs of patients in the years ahead. Full details for the Clydebank and Greenock proposals can be found here Board Paper No: 16/05

Out of Hours GP Service in West of Glasgow may change
An engagement process is to begin with all stakeholders including local community groups about the future of the Primary Care Emergency Centre currently operating out of Drumchapel Hospital.

The Board heard that the current service provides out of hours emergency GP services to a wide population area further afield than Drumchapel and that if it was to relocate to the Gartnavel site it would not involve more travel for everyone. Board members were assured that a full equality impact assessment test would be carried out as part of a fuller engagement and consultation process.

The current service sees an average of 23 patients a night coming with most travelling from the following three areas 1) Dalmuir/Faifley and Duntocher 2) Jordanhill/Yoker and Knightswood 3) Drumchapel.

The current service is open from 6pm till midnight Monday to Friday and 8am until midnight on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. Access to the service is via telephone triage with NHS24 and we offer patient transport to pick up and return patients if it is required.

The Board were content that a process be developed with Partnerships to evaluate and engage on the potential relocation and to note that a wider review of the GP Out of Hours service across Greater Glasgow and Clyde is underway. The full Paper is available here Board Paper No 16/04

Antibiotic prescribing action delivers results on rising infection rates
The Medical Director’s report on Healthcare Associated Infection Reporting highlighted that the number of
C-difficile cases and SABs (Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia) had been on the increase.

Prescribing rates of a specific antibiotic had been identified as being linked to these increases and following a board wide initiative with our medical workforce a change to prescribing practice resulted in a dramatic drop in infection rates.

The full HAI Report outlining this and other areas of HAI reporting is available here Board Paper No. 16/02

Financial Plan for 2016/17 continues to be developed
The financial planning process for 2016/17 has been particularly challenging despite an increase in our financial allocation of £86.2million. The Finance Director’s paper outlined this increase in the context of increasing patient demands, increased workforce costs, and rising costs of new and improved medicines.

To enable the Board to deliver service developments and address new cost pressures it is estimated that the financial plan for the year ahead will need to identify a number and range of savings schemes amounting to £69m from our £3billion expenditure.

Board members were told that management were working intensively in partnership with the Trades Unions through the Area Partnership Committee to deliver a balanced financial plan before the start of the new financial year. The Finance Directors full report can be viewed here Board Paper No 16/06

Are your contact details up-to-date? Click here to check