Introduction

This issue of Core Brief details information on Transforming the Delivery of Acute Services.

Transforming the Delivery of Acute Services

The national clinical strategy for NHS Scotland sets out how health and social care services should be developed over the next 10 to 15 years. That direction has been described in more detail by the December 2016 launch of the National Delivery Plan, which again emphasised that more needs to be done to shift the balance of care from acute hospital services to primary care.

Both documents reinforce that there is a compelling case for the redesign of acute services.

Here in Greater Glasgow and Clyde we have made some progress in developing community health and social care services to reduce demand for hospital care and we want to build on this work as we develop our thinking on the future delivery of acute services.

The purpose of developing detailed plans to transform acute services is to design and deliver the best services, taking into account the resources we expect to have for these services over the next few years. We want to deliver care in different ways and reduce the volume and costs of care delivered in acute hospitals. We want to increase our spending on primary and community care services by reducing waste and improving efficiency in our acute services. This will also help us continue to fund new services and innovations across our services.

The Board’s Acute Services Committee has approved an approach to transforming the delivery of acute services and to continue to deliver the highest quality of care to patients over the short, medium and longer term.

To take the transformation of the delivery of acute services forward, the Board will now establish a detailed programme to develop the plans required to reshape the delivery of our acute services to ensure that clinical services continue to deliver the best possible outcomes for patients. That planning will:-

- Ensure that we have high quality, efficient and affordable acute services, and that, across the Board and HSCP responsibilities, there is a financial framework which underpins the whole system of health and social care.
- Enable development of plans for each of our sites and longer term capital investment priorities.
• Enable planning with Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) for the changes to their primary care, community health and social care services which need to be synchronised with changing acute services.
• Set the service changes which we need to make in the short term in the context of longer term change.

We want to involve you as we plan these changes. A central part of the transforming programme will therefore be communication and engagement with all of our staff. We will use the team brief and Facing the Future Together arrangements and our partnership structures to ensure staff are kept fully informed and can contribute to the development of our plans.

We will also involve the public and patients with a full programme of engagement as our plans take shape over the coming months.