

## Greater Glasgow NHS Board

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2004

Board Paper No. 2004/54

Director of Planning and Community Care

## WAITING TIMES

### Recommendation:

Members are asked to note progress.

#### A. BACKGROUND

At the January 2004 meeting, the Board noted that the national targets that we now need to address are:

- No inpatient/day case waits in excess of 6 months to be achieved by December 2005
- No outpatient waits in excess of 26 weeks to be achieved by December 2005
- Also, to continue to deliver and sustain all existing targets and guarantees e.g. cancer and CHD specific

Our reporting has now changed from specifically monitoring >9 month waits, to >6 waits for inpatients and day cases. As before, this is presented separately for residents without ASCs and those with ASCs.

#### The Challenge ahead

It is considered that sustaining the 9 month maximum wait guarantee is a major challenge. Also, the move towards delivering a 6 month maximum wait in a constrained resource environment will be serious problem, when set alongside the outpatient target.

#### B. CURRENT WAITING TIME FOR INPATIENTS AND DAY CASES

- The provisional numbers of patients waiting over 6 months at July 31 is presented in table 1 for patients waiting without availability status codes (ASCs). Table 2 presents the numbers of patients with ASCs - e.g. where a patient has asked to defer admission for personal reasons.

Table 1 - Current numbers waiting >6 months - All NHS Board residents without ASCs

| Division     | Mar-04<br>Baseline | Jun-04       | Jul-04       | June - July<br>Variance | % Variance |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|
| North        | 890                | 933          | 849          | -84                     | -9%        |
| South        | 674                | 727          | 698          | -29                     | -4%        |
| Yorkhill     | 78                 | 212          | 271          | +59                     | +28%       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1,642</b>       | <b>1,872</b> | <b>1,818</b> | <b>-54</b>              | <b>-3%</b> |

## EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.

We are currently sustaining the 9 month guarantee and >6 month waits reduced by 54 or 3% between June and July. The reason for increases at Yorkhill was reported to the Board last month, this has further exacerbated by the peak period of consultant leave. Extra theatre sessions are now being targeted to alleviate this. This, in conjunction with the development of specialty specific capacity plans will have an impact on the deteriorating inpatient/day case waiting time position at Yorkhill. We expect that performance will improve from August onwards.

Table 2 - Current numbers waiting >6 months - All NHS Board residents with ASCs

| Division     | Mar-04<br>Baseline | Jun-04       | Jul-04       | June - July<br>Variance | % Variance |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|
| North        | 4,771              | 4,752        | 4,872        | +120                    | +3%        |
| South        | 2,747              | 2,858        | 2,928        | +70                     | +2%        |
| Yorkhill     | 434                | 435          | 499          | +64                     | +15%       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>7,952</b>       | <b>8,045</b> | <b>8,299</b> | <b>+254</b>             | <b>+3%</b> |

The number of patients waiting over 6 months with ASC codes increased by 254 or 3% between June and July. The total increase in ASCs, not just >6 month waits, is 93% patient driven and is distributed as follows: 44% for personal or social reasons, 35% DNAs and 14% medically unfit for admission.

### Additional information to differentiate between ASC codes

- Schedule 1 to this paper presents a definition of each ASC.
- Schedule 2 presents the waiting list position for patients with ASCs at July 31, 2004

## C. OTHER ISSUES

### Achieving a maximum 18 week wait in CHD

The National maximum waiting times target for cardiac revascularisation following angiography, is 18 weeks from 30 June 2004. This was delivered by the due date; however, there was a breach of guarantee at the end of July, which was due to exceptional circumstances. A patient was listed who had exactly the same name, consultant and procedure to be carried out as another patient who was waiting for the same period of time. As a consequence, an admission date was provided for one patient only. As soon as the central waiting list audit process picked this up every effort was made to provide an admission date within the guarantee. This did not prove possible, however, the patient had the required surgery on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2004, 13 days after the guaranteed waiting time.

There have been significant challenges in achieving the new guarantee from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2004 and we are very disappointed that having worked so hard to achieve the guarantee this most unusual set of circumstances has arisen. We will endeavour to ensure that this does not happen again.

### 2004/05 Plan - September and December 2004 milestones for achievement

We reported to the Board last month that the SEHD asked NHS Boards to prepare additional robust plans showing the progress that our existing 2004/05 plans would make at set milestones of 30 September and 31 December 2004. The additional plans were submitted in early August and show incremental improvement in waiting times from our baseline position in May 2004 to the existing planned position that we expect to be achieved by March 2005 (presented separately for outpatients and inpatients/day cases as Annex 2 to the July Board paper).

**EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.**

**Bids against National waiting list initiative funding**

We reported last month that the NWTU invited NHS Boards to bid for £4.5m non-recurring funding available to NHS Scotland to pump prime waiting list initiatives during 2004/05. We have submitted our bid and now await a response from the NWTU. We will update the Board on the success of our bid when this information becomes available.

**Outpatient waiting time**

We plan to commence reporting on outpatient waiting time from September onwards.

Director of Planning and Community Care

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**AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES (ASCs) DEFINITIONS**

|   |   |                                  |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 2 | Where the patient has asked to delay admission for personal reasons or has refused a reasonable offer of admission.   | Considered mainly PATIENT driven |
| 3 | In individual cases where, after discussion with the patient, the treatment has been judged of low clinical priority.   | Considered mainly SERVICE driven |
| 4 | With highly specialised treatments identified at the time of placing the patient on the waiting list.   | Considered mainly SERVICE driven |
| 8 | Where the patient did not attend nor give any prior warning.  | Considered mainly PATIENT driven |
| 9 | In circumstances of exceptional strain on the NHS such as a major disaster, major epidemic or outbreak of infection, or service disruption caused by industrial action. | Considered mainly SERVICE driven |
| A | Patients under medical constraints (condition other than that requiring treatment) which affected their ability to accept and admission date, if offered.               | Considered mainly PATIENT driven |

**PATIENTS WAITING WITH AVAILABILITY STATUS CODES  
ALL DIVISIONS, NORTH, SOUTH AND YORKHILL - JULY 31, 2004**  
(To be read in conjunction with ASC definitions - see Schedule 1)

**Table 1 - All Divisions**

| ALL WAITS  | ASC Code                   |     |       |                            |    |       |        |
|--|----------------------------|-----|-------|----------------------------|----|-------|--------|
|  | 2                          | 3   | 4     | 8                          | 9  | A     | Total  |
| Patients Waiting                                   | 5,050                      | 212 | 1,255 | 2,242                      | 5  | 2,166 | 10,930 |
| % Distribution by ASC                              | 46%                        | 2%  | 11%   | 21%                        | 0% | 20%   | 100%   |
| % Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven | Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs |     |       | Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs |    |       |        |
|  | 87%                        |     |       | 13%                        |    |       |        |

**Table 2 - North Glasgow Division (NGD)**

| ALL WAITS  | ASC Code                   |    |     |                            |    |       |       |
|--|----------------------------|----|-----|----------------------------|----|-------|-------|
|  | 2                          | 3  | 4   | 8                          | 9  | A     | Total |
| Patients Waiting                                   | 2,975                      | 0  | 657 | 1,236                      | 5  | 1,468 | 6,341 |
| % Distribution by ASC                              | 47%                        | 0% | 10% | 19%                        | 0% | 23%   | 100%  |
| % Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven | Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs |    |     | Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs |    |       |       |
|  | 90%                        |    |     | 10%                        |    |       |       |

**Table 3 - South Glasgow Division (SGD)**

| ALL WAITS  | ASC Code                   |    |     |                            |    |     |       |
|--|----------------------------|----|-----|----------------------------|----|-----|-------|
|  | 2                          | 3  | 4   | 8                          | 9  | A   | Total |
| Patients Waiting                                   | 1,839                      | 0  | 422 | 825                        | 0  | 617 | 3,703 |
| % Distribution by ASC                              | 50%                        | 0% | 11% | 22%                        | 0% | 17% | 100%  |
| % Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven | Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs |    |     | Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs |    |     |       |
|  | 89%                        |    |     | 11%                        |    |     |       |

**Table 4 - Yorkhill**

| ALL WAITS  | ASC Code                   |     |     |                            |    |    |       |
|--|----------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
|  | 2                          | 3   | 4   | 8                          | 9  | A  | Total |
| Patients Waiting                                   | 236                        | 212 | 176 | 181                        | 0  | 81 | 886   |
| % Distribution by ASC                              | 27%                        | 24% | 20% | 20%                        | 0% | 9% | 100%  |
| % Distribution by mainly PATIENT or SERVICE driven | Mainly PATIENT driven ASCs |     |     | Mainly SERVICE driven ASCs |    |    |       |
|  | 56%                        |     |     | 44%                        |    |    |       |