

Core brief

Monday 11 March 2019

Introduction

This issue of core Brief updates on the NHSGGC Annual Review which took place today (Monday 11 March).

Chairman reports on achievements and challenges at NHSGGC Annual Review

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde held its latest Annual Review today (11 March 2019).

The event, attended by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport and an audience of more than 200 people, offered an opportunity to review our performance in 2017/18 across a wide range of key health priorities.

The key priorities for NHSGGC are:

- improving access to both scheduled and unscheduled care and delivering our commitments;
- investing in services and improving access;
- increasing the pace of the integration of health and social care;
- modernising primary care; and,
- stakeholder engagement with our staff, our public and our patients.

The Chairman, John Brown, presented on our key achievements and challenges in delivering these objectives in 2017/18.

Once again we achieved financial balance and met our cash efficiency target. Whilst we achieved this, the ongoing challenge beyond 2017/18 has led us to take a new approach to achieve sustainable, recurring financial balance through the establishment of a financial improvement programme, underpinned by a robust comprehensive governance process.

More than 89% of patients were treated within 18 weeks of referral to treatment against a target of 90% in 2017/18. NHSGGC remained the best performing urban NHS Board across Scotland. During the year, however, we continued to face challenges in achieving our inpatient/day case and new outpatient waiting times and a number of workstreams have been established to help deliver sustainable solutions.

The Cabinet Secretary heard that our cancer performance remains a key area of focus with 81.3% of patients referred urgently with a suspicion of cancer beginning treatment within 62 days of receipt of referral and 92.7% of patients diagnosed with cancer beginning treatment within 31 days.

Our performance in relation to our unscheduled care target remained a challenge particularly during the winter months. To address this, we created additional winter bed capacity and ran public and staff campaigns to encourage more use of our Minor Injury Units.

A new public health strategy – Turning the Tide – was approved. Our Smoking Cessation service delivered a total of 2,017 successful smoking quits, exceeding the target of 2,005. A total of 14,957 alcohol brief interventions were carried out exceeding the planned number of 13,086 interventions.

The Chairman was also able to report that our capital investment programme continued to be delivered on time and within budget. We opened the Orchard View in Inverclyde – an adult and older peoples continuing mental health accommodation and construction started on the Gorbals and Woodside Health and Care Centres with Gorbals Health and Care Centre opening in January and Woodside expected to open late summer this year.

Our ongoing commitment to mental health services and the care given to our patients by staff was recognised in five reports issued following independent inspections from the Mental Welfare Commission. In 2017/18, they visited services at RHC, RAH, Dykebar, Gartnavel Royal and Skye House. Our staff were praised for the atmosphere on the wards, high levels of communication with relatives and carers and personal care plans for all patients.

Attendees are also given the opportunity to pose questions to a panel of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Directors. This gives members of the public, patients, their families and carers a chance to see how NHSGGC is doing and ask questions about the services provided.

At this year's event, questions included: Improving nurse training on learning difficulties; access MRI for brain cancer patients; plans for GP out-of-hours services; and the plans for engagement on Moving Forward Together.

John Brown, chairman said: "There have been a lot of challenges and a lot of achievements in 2017/18. Looking ahead, we want to work in partnership with patients, public and staff. We will have a clear focus on delivery of waiting times and value for money and we will continue to work with other agencies to address inequalities."

[Click here to hear the event in full.](#)

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