

Report to the NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group on 25 November 2021

Title: Chief Executive's Report	Enclosure D
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Version Number / Status:	N/A
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Clinical Lead:	N/A
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Summary and Purpose of Paper

The paper sets out items of note arising since the last meeting which are relevant to NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and to its health service commissioning activity on behalf of the Somerset population.

Recommendations and next steps

The Governing Body is asked to **Note** the Chief Executive's report.

Impact Assessments – key issues identified

Equality	N/A			
Quality	N/A			
Privacy	N/A			
Engagement	N/A			
Financial / Resource	N/A			
Governance or Legal	N/A			
Risk Description	N/A			
Risk Rating	Consequence	Likelihood	RAG Rating	GBAF Ref
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of items of note arising during the period to 18 November 2021 and information on my activity during this period.

2 NATIONAL

Covid-19 pandemic

- 2.1 COVID rates remain high across with UK with the SW in particular having rates in recent months in excess of either the first or second peaks.

Working together to improve health and social care for all

- 2.2 All 42 Integrated Care Systems have now either appointed Chair Designates or been out to advert for the role. Likewise interviews for the ICB CEO roles have now been held with the majority of systems having made recommendations on their designate ICB CEOs.

Change to UK Threat Level

- 2.3 The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) has advised that the UK Threat Level should be changed from **SUBSTANTIAL** (an attack is likely) to **SEVERE** (an attack is highly likely).

3 LOCAL

Operational Pressures Escalation Level (OPEL)

- 3.1 OPEL shows the amount of pressure being experienced by hospital, community and emergency health services. OPEL Level 1 is the lowest level of pressure on the system. OPEL Level 4 is the highest.

- 3.2 As at 16 November 2021, the escalation level for the whole of Somerset was OPEL Level 4, described as:

Four-hour performance is not being delivered and patients are being cared for in overcrowded and congested department(s). Pressure in the local health and social care system continues and there is increased potential for patient care and safety to be compromised.

Decisive action must be taken by the Local A&E Delivery Board to

recover capacity and ensure patient safety. If pressure continues for more than 3 days an extraordinary AEDB meeting should be considered. All available local escalation actions taken, external extensive support and intervention required.

Regional teams in NHS E and NHS I will be aware of rising system pressure, providing additional support as deemed appropriate and agreed locally, and will be actively involved in conversations with the system. The Regional UEC Operations Leads will have an ongoing dialogue with the National UEC Ops Room providing assurance of whole system action and progress towards recovery. The key question to be answered is how the safety of the patients in corridors is being addressed, and actions are being taken to enable flow to reduce overcrowding. The expectation is that the situation within the hospital will be being managed by the hospital CEO or appropriate Board Director, and they will be on site. Where multiple systems in different parts of the country are declaring OPEL 4 for sustained periods of time and there is an impact across local and regional boundaries, national action may be considered.

Covid-19 vaccination programme

- 3.3 The Somerset vaccination programme continues to make good progress and despite a relatively slow uptake on the booster programme (across the country not just in Somerset), demand has now risen to the extent that queues are regularly forming for the walk-in vaccine clinics. As such, we are promoting booking for vaccines via the National Booking Service (NBS) and are actively running communication campaigns to this effect.

Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB) CEO confirmed

- 3.4 Jonathan Higman has been appointed as the Chief Executive of the future Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB), which will be established from April 2022, should Parliament confirm the current plans. A letter from Paul von der Heyde, Chair Designate of the Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB) is attached.

Somerset ICS: NHS system oversight framework (SOF) segmentation

- 3.5 Following consideration by the NHSEI regional support group, it has been agreed that the Somerset ICS should be placed into SOF segment 2. A letter from Elizabeth O'Mahony, Regional Director South West, NHS England and Improvement, is attached.
- 3.6 This represents significant improvement across the system and by the CCG in particular. The move from special measures to a SOF rating of 2 (equivalent to 'good' under the previous rating system) in a two-year period has been described by the Regional Performance Director as "stellar".
- 3.7 Trusts also received individual SOF ratings with Somerset FT

receiving a rating of 2 and Yeovil District Hospital FT a rating of 3.

- 3.8 Ratings of all Systems and all Trusts can be found at [NHS England » NHS system oversight framework segmentation](#)

Representing the CCG

- 3.9 I have represented the CCG at a variety of internal and external events, including the following meetings:-

- South West Regional Chief Executives Meeting
- Fit For My Future Programme Board
- South West & South East Regional Roadshow with Amanda Pritchard, CEO and Mark Cubbon, Interim COO, NHSEI
- Somerset ICS Executive Meeting
- Somerset System Gold Command Meeting
- Meetings with Pat Flaherty, Somerset ICS Chair (to 31 October 2021)
- Meeting with Trudi Grant, Director of Public Health, Somerset County Council
- SEND Improvement Board Meeting
- HSDR Funding Committee Meeting
- SEND Leadership Workshops
- South West ICS Leads Meeting
- ICS Development Session with Somerset Chief Executives
- Rutherford Diagnostic Centre Somerset Opening Event
- Somerset Health & Wellbeing Board Meeting
- SVOC Gold Meeting
- Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Annual Members' Meeting
- ICS Board Meeting
- Elective Recovery Meeting with NHSEI
- Midlands and South West AOs NHSCC catch-up with Louise Patten
- Visit to Yeovil PCN
- Interview with Carnall Farrar re Devon ICS Development project
- Meeting with Anthony Martin, Head of Transformation, NHSEI South West
- SWAG Cancer Alliance Board Meeting
- Meeting with Berge Balian, Chair; Somerset General Practice Provider Board
- Healthy Weston Steering Group Meeting
- Race Ahead – NHS Big Conversation on Race Event
- SEND Improvement Board
- 12-15 Vaccine Update with Nick Hulme, NHSEI
- Meeting with Martin Wilkinson, Director of Performance and Improvement, NHSEI
- Healthcare CEO Future Pulse webinar with KPMG
- Somerset - System Leads meeting re H2 Planning with NHSEI
- CCG/LMC Liaison Meeting
- Meeting to discuss Domiciliary Care Workforce with NHSEI
- Meeting with Paul von der Heyde, Somerset ICS Chair (from 1 November)
- ICS Network Annual Member Conference
- National Operational Update Webinar with NHSEI
- South West Regional People Board Meeting



November 2021

Subject: Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB) CEO confirmed

I am pleased to be able to tell you that following a robust national recruitment process, Jonathan Higman has been appointed as the Chief Executive of the future Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB), which will be established from April 2022 should Parliament confirm the current plans.

Jonathan Higman became Chief Executive of Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in November 2017. He has also held a number of Director level posts, including Director of Strategic Development and Director of Operations at the Trust. Jonathan has lived in Somerset for over 20 years' and has experience working in a variety of roles in both hospitals and commissioning across the NHS in the South West and South East of England.

The confirmation of this appointment comes as we continue the journey to truly integrated working across health and care in Somerset. We have a real opportunity to make a positive difference to the lives of people in Somerset. This appointment takes us a step closer to formalising the arrangements which will enable the ICB to become a statutory body by April 2022.

The Health and Care Bill 2021, which contains a series of measures to formally establish Integrated Care Systems (ICS), is currently at Committee Stage in Parliament receiving a detailed examination following its second reading. The Bill will put ICSs on a firm statutory footing, as the successor organisation to the Clinical Commissioning Group, empowering them to better join up health and care, improve population health and reduce health inequalities.

James Rimmer, current Chief Executive of Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and ICS system leader will remain in post until the ICB comes into effect in April 2022. James, Jonathan and I, will be working closely together over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition to the ICB and to plan the way forward.

We are fortunate to have such a collaborative health and care team in the county. Together we can understand, plan and deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Somerset. Our mutual objective will be to build an exceptional system in Somerset and I look forward to working with Jonathan to develop the Integrated Care Board which will deliver the leadership required for the achievement of a truly integrated health and care system in the confidence he will be an ideal Chief Executive to lead the task.

I am sure, like me, you congratulate Jonathan on this appointment and look forward to working with him and ICS colleagues on improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Somerset.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Paul von der Heyde'.

Paul von der Heyde

Chair Designate of Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB)

Sent via email to:

Somerset ICS

ICS Leader: James Rimmer

Independent Chair: Pat Flaherty

Elizabeth O'Mahony
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15th October 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Somerset ICS: NHS system oversight framework segmentation

As you will be aware, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) recently consulted on the new NHS System Oversight Framework (SOF) 2021/22, which introduced a new approach to provide focused assistance to organisations and systems.

Following feedback from local leaders and others, this new SOF is now being implemented. The final SOF can be found [here](#).

Following consideration by the NHSEI regional support group, it has been agreed that **The Somerset ICS** should be placed into SOF segment 2.

What this means in practice is that the regional team will work with you to access flexible support delivered through peer support, clinical networks, the NHS England and NHS Improvement universal support offer (e.g. GIRFT, RightCare, pathway redesign, NHS Retention Programme) or a bespoke support package via the regional improvement hubs.

We recognise and thank you for the efforts of you and your teams to provide the best quality care to our patients, including meeting and recovering from the additional challenges COVID-19 has posed.

If you wish to discuss the above or any related issues in more detail, please contact Anthony Martin, in the first instance, email: sw.oversightandassurance@nhs.net

Yours Sincerely,



Elizabeth O'Mahony
Regional Director South West
NHS England and Improvement