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Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cymru  
Public Health  
Wales

**Confirmed Notes of the Board Briefing.  
Held on 27 July 2023, 14:45**

<b>Present:</b>		
Jan Williams	(JW)	Chair
Tracey Cooper	(TC)	Chief Executive
Sumina Azam	(SA)	National Director of Policy Research and Development, Policy, Research and International Development
Zoe Wallace	(ZW)	Director of Primary Care and Programme Director for the Strategic Programme for Primary Care
Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood	(RBW)	Executive Director of Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals
Iain Bell	(IB)	National Director for Public Health Knowledge and Research
Kate Eden	(KE)	Vice Chair
Nick Elliott	(NE)	Chair of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and Non-Executive Director
Kate Young	(KY)	Non-Executive Director
Sian Griffiths	(SG)	Chair of the Knowledge, Research and Information Committee and Non Executive Director
Meng Khaw	(MK)	National Director of Health Protection and Screening Services, Executive Medical Director
Neil Lewis	(NL)	Director People and Organisational Development
Mohammed Mehmet	(MM)	Chair of the People and Organisational Development Committee and Non Executive Director
Paul Veysey	(PV)	Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit
Angela Williams	(AW)	Deputy Director Operations and Finance
Liz Blayney	(LB)	Deputy Board Secretary and Board Governance Manager
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Diane Crone	(DC)	Non-Executive Director (University)

Huw George	(HG)	Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Finance and Operations
John Bolton	(JB)	National Director for NHS Quality Improvement and Patient Safety/ Director Improvement Cymru

<p><b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>JW welcomed everyone to the briefing and noted the apologies listed above.</p>
<p><b>2. NHS Financial Position</b></p> <p>JW introduced the briefing which followed from an emergency meeting with the Minister last week; the Minister had outlined the requirement for all NHS organisations to develop proposals to reduce spending, in view of the overall NHS Wales' financial position in 2023/24.</p> <p>The Minister had set out the parameters and had asked for proposals by 11 August.</p> <p>TC then outlined the action that the Executive Team had initiated, including the design of a set of principles to underpin the development of any proposals, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are one public service and we will play our part in supporting the wider NHS where possible.</li> <li>2. We will take decisions collectively.</li> <li>3. We will not compromise our statutory functions, particularly the services we deliver for the public.</li> <li>4. We will maintain our focus on reversing population health harms.</li> <li>5. We will stop non-essential expenditure (further work to be done to define non-essential).</li> <li>6. We will continue to review our financial position through the year with the view to providing more support to assist NHS Wales' financial position.</li> </ol> <p>Applying the principles, TC advised that the Executive Team was reviewing the allocation, looking at commitments yet to begin, expenditure on commissioned services, recharging and efficiency savings.</p> <p>AW referenced those areas subject to further consideration, including the Business Cases for Lung Cancer and Newborn Screening, Screening recovery, Healthy Working Wales, and Public Inquiry Funding.</p> <p>The Board supported the development of the set of principles; these would ensure that, whilst Public Health Wales met its obligations as part of the NHS Wales' family, there would be no impact on statutory functions.</p>

MM supported the approach proposed, highlighted the need to engage with staff at the earliest opportunity, in line with Public Health Wales' culture. ZW built on this point, asking about the timing of messaging out to staff.

KY noted the need to review the potential impact on Third Sector partners and to avoid double counting of any savings proposals.

NE reflected on the increasing importance of demonstrating the value and impact of the public money vested in Public Health Wales.

TC acknowledged NEs point, connecting it with the imperative to keep a focus on the shift to prevention and Public Health Wales' system leadership role in this. She went on to confirm the intent to engage with staff as soon as possible, in line with the Ministerial timeline and Guidance.

JW thanked the Board for the comments made and noted the support for the actions that TC had outlined; there would be a further Board Briefing session on 10 August, to consider the worked-up proposals, prior to submission to Welsh Government on 11 August. She expressed the Board's appreciation to all involved in drawing up the proposals at such short notice.

The Meeting closed at 15:10

Confirmed