



REPORT TO: East Lothian Integration Joint Board

MEETING DATE: 25 June 2020

BY: Chief Officer

SUBJECT: NHS Lothian COVID-19 Remobilisation Plan

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform the IJB of the plans underway through which NHS Lothian will remobilise services across Lothian, covering those centrally delivered by the Board, those managed by the four HSCPs, hosted services and Independent Contractor services.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The IJB is asked to:

- 2.1 Accept the Remobilisation Plan (*circulated separately*) which NHS Lothian Board is receiving for approval on 24th June, and the plans therein to bring suspended health and social care services back into operation in a phased way. The Plan commits to reintroduce those of highest clinical priority first (see section 3.4 below).
- 2.2 Note the Remobilisation Plan covers: acute service areas not delegated to the IJBs; those areas delegated to the IJBs which require local strategic and operational planning work and some delegated areas in which action is underway (e.g. roll-out of 'Near Me under the direction of Scottish Government) and which for reasons of expediency, happened without consultation with IJBs. The delivery of future actions concerning areas of IJB responsibility may require Directions and as such will be subject to IJB scrutiny.
- 2.3 Note that the Remobilisation Plan will develop further, as there is an expectation that the Scottish Government may ask for extension of the plan to end March 2021. The further version of the Remobilisation Plan will include Winter Plan arrangements for Lothian.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 NHS Lothian submitted its first draft of a COVID-19 Remobilisation Plan to the Scottish Government on the 25th May 2020 at the Government's request. East Lothian HSCP was invited, along with the other Lothian HSCPs, to contribute sections to the Plan and to comment on the larger document's contents.
- 3.2 The Plan covers: acute service areas not delegated to the Lothian IJBs; those areas delegated to the IJBs which will require local strategic and operational planning work to re-establish services and a number of delegated areas where action is already underway (e.g. roll-out of 'Near Me under the direction of Scottish Government). The latter, for reasons of expediency, happened without consultation with IJBs. The delivery of future actions concerning areas of IJB responsibility may require Directions and as such will be subject to IJB scrutiny.
- 3.3 A second and final version of the plan was submitted to the Scottish Government on 10th June, which sets out the Board's initial priorities up to the end of July 2020.
- 3.4 There is an expectation that NHS Lothian will be asked to produce a further plan or plans to cover the period up to end March 2021 and to include in this/these their Winter Plan intentions.
- 3.5 The initial priorities set out in the Remobilisation Plan are:
- Diagnostics and treatment for cancer
 - Urgent treatment for cardiac disease, transplants and renal failure
 - Mental health
 - Routine treatments where additional delays may have made the clinical picture an urgent one
 - Services for children, where the impact on a child's development could be disproportionate
 - Dental and ophthalmic services where significant underlying disease may have developed
 - General Medical Service (GP) capacity to see patients with non-urgent but significant health problems that will worsen over time.
- 3.6 The above list is in addition to services which were sustained through the first wave of COVID-19, including support for pregnancy and unscheduled care services.
- 3.7 The Plan commits to utilising clinical triage and clinical judgement to ensure management of the risks to patients associated with delayed treatment.
- 3.8 Although routine face-to-face outpatients or elective care will not be introduced for the three-month period of the current Plan, clinically-led assessments will evaluate risk on an individual patient basis.
- 3.9 General practices and community pharmacies have remained open during the lockdown and performed a key role in supporting patients and

in addressing need at community level. The plan states that the community COVID-19 Pathway Hubs and assessment centres that are currently in place will continue to provide support to GP practices in managing COVID-19 activity.

3.10 The Remobilisation Plan considers risks to its delivery. These cover:

- COVID-19 demand may exceed COVID-19 capacity
- A continued build-up of 'backlog'
- Reduction in productivity
- Provision of adequate and appropriate PPE
- Pressures on staff availability
- Inadequate eHealth hardware and infrastructure.

4 ENGAGEMENT

4.1 NHS Lothian will conduct engagement activity in relation to its services where appropriate. Similarly, the HSCPs may need to consult with stakeholders on any proposed local service changes arising from the Remobilisation Plan.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any policy implications for elements of the Plan will be fully assessed and reported on to appropriate committees.

6 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 No Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has yet been carried out on the Remobilisation Plan. Individual IIA's will be required on specific elements of the Plan. East Lothian HSCP will separately assess any implications for its managed/contracted services.

7 DIRECTIONS

7.1 There are no current implications for East Lothian Directions associated with the proposed actions arising from the Remobilisation Plan.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Financial - The resource implications as of May 2020, were forecast to include additional costs of £149.8m associated with the COVID-19 response across the Board and the four Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs). Of this sum, £71m is anticipated in the four months to the end of July.
- 8.2 Personnel - The current physical distancing, hygiene and PPE measures have affected all aspects of health and social care services, are very likely to apply for many months and have brought additional costs and may have implications for productivity.
- 8.3 Other – None

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 NHS Lothian COVID-19 Remobilisation Plan (*circulated separately*).

AUTHOR'S NAME	Paul Currie
DESIGNATION	Interim General Manager – Strategic Integration
CONTACT INFO	paul.currie@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
DATE	12 June 2020