

Borders NHS Board



Meeting Date: 24 September 2020

Approved by:	June Smyth, Director of Strategic Change & Performance
Author:	Stephanie Errington, Head of Planning & Performance
COVID-19 REMOBILISATION PLAN (RECOVERY) UPDATE	
Purpose of Report:	
This paper updates NHS Borders Board on the COVID-19 Remobilisation (Recovery) planning process.	
Recommendations:	
The Board is asked to note the update on the COVID-19 Remobilisation (Recovery) planning process.	
Approval Pathways:	
The report is based on the work to date of the internal Remobilisation Planning Group, and was reviewed and approved by the Director of Strategic Change & Performance.	
Executive Summary:	
<p>The first iteration of NHS Borders COVID-19 Remobilisation Plan (Recovery) was submitted to the Scottish Government on 25th May 2020 with a second iteration submitted on 31st July 2020. Members of Scottish Government met virtually with the Board Executive Team on 7th September to discuss plans to date, and we are awaiting a formal feedback letter on our plans.</p> <p>The Remobilisation Planning Group (RPG) continues to meet on a weekly basis to coordinate the system wide response. The RPG and the business units continue to develop and refine plans for service recovery in line with the assumptions, principles and constraints as set out in the first iteration of our plan.</p> <p>Significant work has progressed over the past 6 weeks since our last submission to Scottish Government and we have a clear picture of the levels of services we are able to offer, given the constraints we are facing as a result of COVID-19. Some services, because of these constraints, are not able to operate at their pre-COVID-19 level.</p> <p>The next update of our plan will include our planned response to winter pressures this year and also incorporate detail relating to the extended 'flu vaccination programme that has been directed by Scottish Government. The plan will also highlight a number of key challenges that we are facing in finalising our remobilisation plans which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The availability of the required workforce 	

- The ongoing need to undertake local predictive modelling to support decisions relating to COVID-19 Resurgence Plans
- Challenges facing ITU provision on a further onset of COVID-19 patients requiring critical care and the impact this may have on our elective programme
- The importance of ensuring plans start to address the indirect consequences for the health of the population as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The varying levels of escalation of Primary Care across NHS Borders
- Continued infection control issues
- The drive to support staff to work from home where possible and reasonable in order to reduce workforce footfall where appropriate
- No confirmed resource allocation to NHS Borders to date as a result of COVID-19

It remains extremely challenging to predict or draw firm conclusions as to how the coronavirus pandemic will develop in the coming months. We continue to refine plans so as to maintain hospital capacity to respond to any further COVID-19 outbreaks whilst simultaneously managing the risk of nosocomial spread presented by the virus and simultaneously planning for winter pressures with includes a significantly extended 'flu vaccination programme.

A further updated plan will be developed which responds to feedback from Scottish Government in due course once this is received. Part of the feedback we are expecting is confirmation of the level of resource NHS Borders can expect as part of the COVID-19 remobilisation efforts. Our plans may need to be refined if the resources allocated do not meet the projected costs that this plan as it stands will incur.

A communication and engagement plan for the remobilisation plan is being progressed.

Impact of item/issues on:	
Strategic Context	The Board needs to develop a COVID 19 Remobilisation (recovery) Plan. This needs to be submitted to Scottish Government for consideration.
Patient Safety/Clinical Impact	This will be assessed as part of the detailed remobilisation plan discussions currently underway.
Staffing/Workforce	This will be assessed as part of the detailed remobilisation plan discussions currently underway.
Finance/Resources	Work is underway to understand the financial impact of remobilisation but this is not yet complete.
Risk Implications	This will be assessed as part of the detailed remobilisation plan discussions currently underway.
Equality and Diversity	A Health Inequality Impact Assessment is being undertaken.
Consultation	A communication and engagement plan to underpin the Board's Remobilisation plan is being progressed.
Glossary	RPG – Remobilisation Planning Group