

DRAFT

WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST

MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2012 VIA VIDEO AND TELEPHONE CONFERENCE FROM VANTAGE POINT HOUSE, CWMBRAN, CEFN COED, SWANSEA AND HEADQUARTERS, ST ASAPH.

PRESENT :

Mr P James	Non Executive Director (Chair)
Mr S Castledine	Non Executive Director
Mr C James	Director of Strategy, Planning and Performance
Mr P Price	Non Executive Director

EXECUTIVE/ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:

Mrs J Hardisty	Director of Workforce and OD
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IN ATTENDANCE :

Mr N Heal	Staffside Representative (RCN)
Mr N Holman	Staffside Representative (GMB)
Mr J Huxley	Assistant Corporate Secretary
Mr J Jones	Corporate Accountant
Mrs D Sharp	Corporate Secretary
Mr R Wilkins	Head of Estates and Capital Development

APOLOGIES:

Mr D Evans	Non Executive Director
Mrs S Jenkins	Director of Service Delivery
Mrs P Roseblade	Director of Finance and ICT

46/12 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That it be noted that there were no declarations made under the Code of Conduct .

47/12 RECAST ESTATES STRATEGIC OUTLINE CASE (SOC) 2012

The Director of Strategy, Planning and Performance presented the final draft version of the recast Estates Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for consideration by the Committee and for it to be recommended for approval by the Trust Board. It had been necessary to recast the Strategy to bring the overall cost of implementing the proposals into line with the amount of capital funds that were likely to be available during the entire period of the

scheme. The report included the recast cost profile of the SOC and set out the key milestones from the point the Trust Board had approved the SOC to the commencement of the building phase next year.

Members sought clarification of the changes that had been made to the SOC since it was approved originally by the Board in July 2011. Reference was also made that the capital environment nationally would become much tighter in future years and, therefore, further re-appraisal of the strategy would be necessary to reflect the prevailing funding scenario.

RESOLVED:

That the Trust Board be recommended to approve the recast Estates SOC at its meeting on 13 December 2012 for submission to the Welsh Government for approval.

48/12 CARDIFF AMBULANCE RESOURCE CENTRE

The Director of Strategy, Planning and Performance submitted a report asking the Committee to recommend to the Trust Board the approval of the proposed Cardiff Ambulance Centre (ARC) scheme. At its meeting on 15 November 2012, the Committee had been informed that a special meeting of the Committee would be necessary to consider the Business Justification Case (BJC) in more detail before it was referred to the Board for final approval. At that meeting, it was requested that Patient Care Services (PCS) requirements were reflected within the BJC and that a location map was also appended to the documentation.

A revised report was submitted for consideration and also confirming the current position in relation to the ongoing discussion with the Welsh Government (WG), the cost of the preferred option, how this option was to be funded and the key risks and issues. In considering the matter, members made the following points:-

(a) The Committee discussed the approach that had been adopted to negotiate an estimated sale price for the land stated in the BJC and also sought clarification on the status of that figure in the context of what the Committee was being asked to approve. In response, the Committee was advised that the Trust had received expert advice, through Shared Services, to undertake the negotiations with the agents and landowner but within that arrangement, the Trust had an obligation to ensure that it achieved the best possible outcome.

(b) Detailed discussion took place with regard to the location of the proposed site for the ARC with particular reference to the accessibility of Trust vehicles to certain parts of the Cardiff city area. The Committee also considered the process that had been adopted to assess all of the available suitable sites with regard to cost, location and traffic flows and whether any additional methods of procurement were adopted or considered to ensure that the recommended site was the best available.

(c) The proposals within the BJC for vehicle parking at the ARC needed to be considered further in relation to the number of suggested spaces being made available and the anticipated number of staff working from that location.

(d) During the discussion, it was suggested that the Committee should consider, at its next meeting, referring the process of acquiring land and buildings to the Audit Committee for scrutiny to satisfy itself that the most efficient and effective methods were being used within the parameters of any national procurement requirements.

(e) The Chairman suggested that it was important for the Committee to be assured that the operational and clinical considerations should be included in all documentation at every other stage of the process, not only in this particular case but in all similar projects within the Estates Strategy.

RESOLVED:

That the Cardiff ARC BJC be recommended for approval by the Trust Board based on the identified preferred site, subject to the following action being undertaken:-

(a) strengthening of the operational benefits and clinical outcomes associated with the project;

(b) the Director of Strategy, Planning and Performance consider carrying out a re-appraisal of any suitable alternative sites which might improve the accessibility requirements of this particular scheme;

(c) the Committee consider at its next meeting whether to refer the process for acquiring land and buildings to the Audit Committee for detailed scrutiny; and

(d) further consideration be given at the appropriate time in the project to the car parking arrangements at the proposed ARC to ensure that there is sufficient capacity to satisfy the number of staff working from that location.

49/12 DISCRETIONARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13

The Committee was asked to consider a report suggesting Estate related amendments to the Discretionary Capital Programme for 2012/13. The amendments ensured that high risk statutory and regulatory works requirements were completed with the high priority required in year. The report also commented upon other opportunities with regard to maintenance works which might release capital funds to develop alternative facilities.

RESOLVED:

That the amendments to the Discretionary Capital Programme 2012/13, as described in the report be approved and endorsed by the Board, to align necessary works to address Estates high risk statutory and regulatory works, as noted by the Internal Capital Planning Group (ICPG) on 5 November 2012 and Management Team at their meeting on 5 December 2012.